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JOHN BULL

Vol. XXXVII. No. 971. SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1925. TWOPENCE.

Mason's "O.K." the cold meat Sauce

NET SALES NOW OVER 900,000

See page 15

Last Word in Cross-words!

£100 cash

and 1,000 other prizes

Be ready for the BOVRIL WINTER!

For months past you have been starved of sunshine. This means that your powers of resistance to illness will be low unless you take special measures to increase them.

Take Bovril. It is a sound instinct, based on deep racial experience, that makes people turn to Bovril (*the power of Beef*) when illness threatens—when any special effort is required—when any extra demand is made upon the system.

Bovril keeps you going!

GRAVES
'THRIFTY'
The World's Finest Cutlery Value Every piece warranted best quality

Graves 'Thrifty' Service Canteen: 6 Stainless Steel Dessert Knives with Fancy-grained handles, 6 Dessert Forks, 6 Dessert Spoons, 6 Tea Spoons, 1 Soup Spoon, 1 Mustard Spoon (all mounted to wear white throughout) and 1 pr. stainless Sheffield Steel Carvers with fancy Ivorine handles. Price £6/5/-
WE DELIVER the Graves 'Thrifty' service on approved orders for 5/- cash and 5/- monthly. Money back if not absolutely satisfied.
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE of Sheffield Cutlery and Plate, Stainless Specialities, &c., Post Free
J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD

THE INSTANT HAND-CLEANER AND HOUSEWIFE'S HELPER.
Like Magic for Cleaning.

Tins Everywhere, 4½d. and 8d.

PSORIASIS ECZEMA, Rodent Ulcer, and all skin diseases completely and permanently cured by EVERETT'S CURE TREAT-MENT. Famous over 30 years. Entirely herbal, inexpensive, yet cures when doctors and hospitals fail. Send post-card for free book, which tells you how to obtain your certain cure at home.—J. Robinson & Sons, 11, Antrim Chambers, Brighton.

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GENUINE NATURAL FURS.

Every lady should write for the Graves Bargain Catalogue of genuine high grade furs. The newest exclusive styles in exquisitely matched skins. Keenest money-saving prices and Easy Terms. Finest values ever offered.
WE DELIVER Furs to approved orders for 5 cash payment with order. Balance monthly payments if satisfied. Money back if disappointed.
WRITE TO-DAY for our new handsomely Illustrated Fur Catalogue Post Free.
J. G. Graves Ltd. Sheffield.
From 5/- Monthly

SPECIAL OFFER
Try Esmolin at our expense. Buy a 3/- bottle anywhere, and if, after using half, you do not like it, return to us here, & we will refund the cost.

ESMOLIN KILLS NEURITIS 3/6 1/3

For RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, RHEUMATISM, Cold Sores, Pains. Obtainable at all Chemists, 3/- or 1/3 per bottle, or direct post free from The ESMOLIN CO., Ltd. (Dept. J.B.), 114, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.

Presentation Coupon.

"John Bull" Pen Dept. Long Acre, London, W.C.2

Please send me the "John Bull" 5/- Pen, on which engrave free the name or initials:

.....

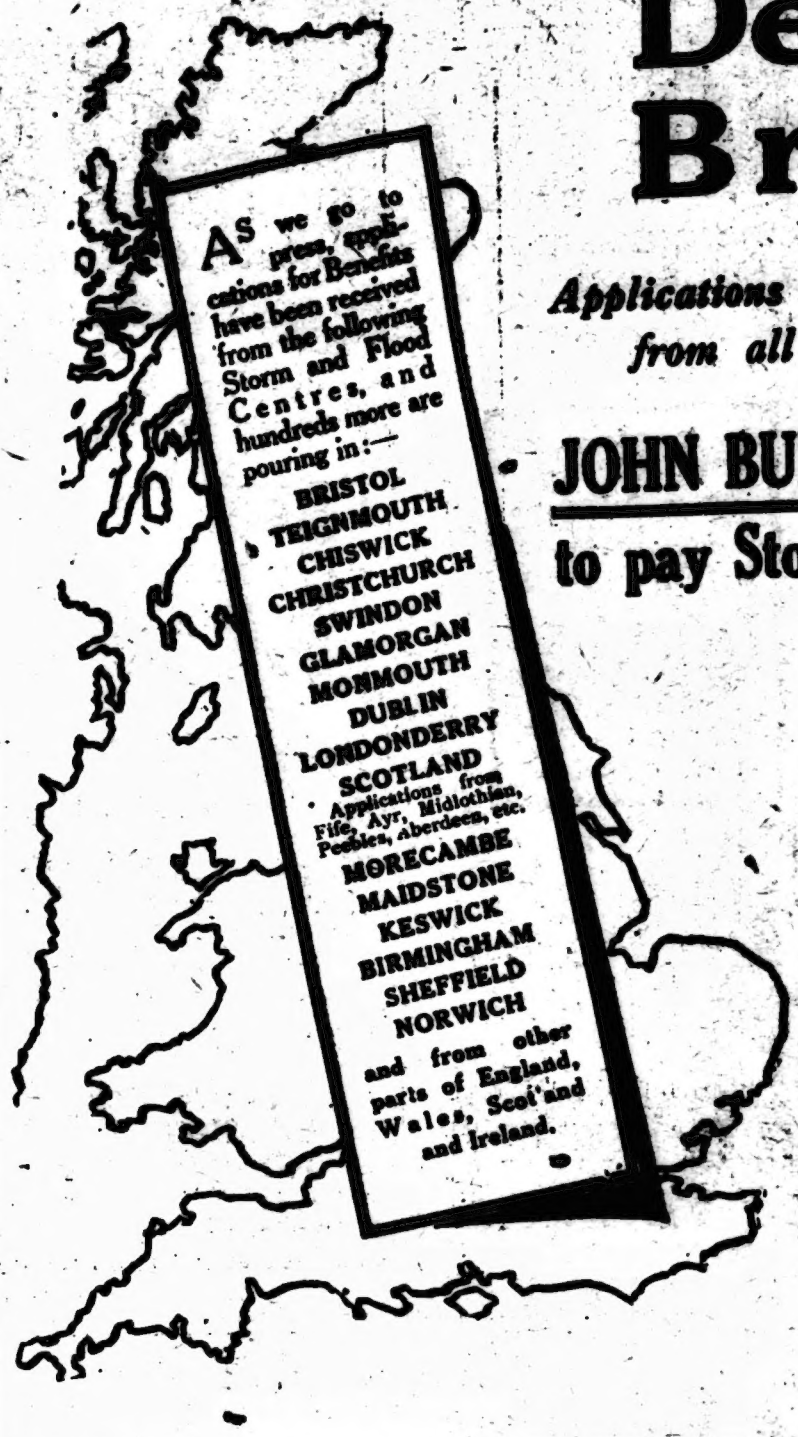
(*Write in CAPITALS name or initials you wish engraved.*)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

I enclose cheque / P.O. for 5/6 (including postage and ring). Cross "& Co." and make payable to "John Bull." State if fine, medium, broad nib. J.B. 10/1/25



Deluged Britain

Applications for Benefits pouring in from all parts of the Country.

JOHN BULL the ONLY PAPER to pay Storm & Flood Benefits.

ONE of the worst floods within living memory has created terrible havoc all over Great Britain. Roofs have collapsed and dwellings have been inundated—furniture is awash—basements flooded—furniture and personal belongings have been engulfed and ruined in the onrush of waters. Applications for Benefits are pouring in and are being dealt with as speedily and sympathetically as possible.
Did your home escape?
Have you filled up the forms?

NO REDUCTION IN BENEFITS

The "John Bull" Free Insurance Gift stands supreme and unchallenged as the most practical and generous in the World. So great a boon has it proved to our readers during 1924 that we have decided to maintain the wonderful Benefits unchanged for 1925.

CUT HERE.

POST THIS COUPON TO "JOHN BULL."

To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

Reader's Name..... Age....
in full (CAPITAL LETTERS.)

Address.....

.....

Reader's Signature.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.....

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Date .....

Use 1d. stamps. Don't send envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent on receipt of 1d. stamped addressed envelope.

J.B. 10/1/25.

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HAND THIS COUPON TO YOUR NEWSAGENT.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address.....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address.....

Date .....

Only 8 Days more!

Don't be too late. Fill in the coupon NOW.

FREE 2/6 EVERPOINTED PEN AND FREE YOUR NAME ENGRAVED IN GOLD

Pen is fitted with 14-ct. gold nib iridium tipped, 2 years' guarantee. Equal to pens costing 17/6.

Whooping Cough

and Children's Bronchial Troubles

Your children will not always escape Whooping Cough, but you can put a stop to it if you use Veno's.

When the "whoop" commences, give the child a dose. It is safe. You can use it with confidence. It will save you nights of worry, and your child will like it, for it is really pleasant to take.

Price 1/3, Family Size 3/- All Chemists.

VENO'S
LIGHTNING
COUGH CURE

THREE ARTS CIGARETTES

25 for 1/-

Every packet of *"Three Arts"* contains *twenty-five* pure Virginia Cigarettes.
Manufactured by Morris's on the mass production principle, you get *five extra* cigarettes for your shilling.

B. Morris & Sons, Ltd., London, E.

Three Arts

HEAVY KEYWIND Domed LEVER WATCH YOURS for 6D.

Every reader of JOHN BULL should take this unrepeatable opportunity of having one of these handsome Keywind Lever Watches which are for the first time offered on our unheard-of bargain terms. READ OUR BRIEF DESCRIPTION. Gent's Massive Full-sized Domed Lever Watch. Extra-stout nickel-silver finished case with engine turned back case. Absolutely dust proof. Carefully adjusted accurate three-quarter plate lever movement. Bold, clear hands and figures, enamelled dial. perfect timekeeper. Fully warranted 5 years. So sure are we that YOU WILL BE MORE THAN SATISFIED, that we send this handsome Watch post paid upon receipt of 6d. only. After receipt youend 2/- more, and the balance may then be paid by monthly instalments of 2/- each until 18/- is paid. Price cash with order (or balance within seven days), 18/- only. Cash willingly returned if not absolutely satisfied and Watch is returned within seven days. Send to-day to: GRIFFOGUE (Brighton), Ltd., (Dept. 824), 94, Queen's Road, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

Feel as happy on your feet as Twinkletoes.

How many times a week do *you* come home tired, with your feet aching and burning, and perhaps an old corn "giving you gyp!"
The next time this happens stop at a chemist's on your way and get a packet of Radox Bath Salts. Dissolve a level tablespoonful in a gallon of hot water and plunge your feet into it. You will feel the pain and soreness and burning being drawn out by the oxygenated water. The Salts dissolve the acid skin secretions—the cause of foot troubles—and your feet are soothed and refreshed wonderfully. After one or two baths obstinate corns may be lifted out bodily with the fingers. What happens is that the Radox water forms a soluble protein salt in combination with the dead skin of the corn. This protein salt is dissolved and the corn disappears. You will feel the difference even after one bath; your feet will feel cool and braced and vigorously healthy. Have these Radox Foot Baths regularly and you will never have foot troubles again.
Radox Bath Salts are sold by most chemists in pink packets, price 1/6, double quantity 2/6.
It is important to remember the name; there are no other bath salts like Radox. If you have any difficulty send remittance and a packet will be sent direct post free.

1/6
Half Pound Pink Packet.

RADOX
(RADIATES OXYGEN)
Bath Salts

Rheumatism and uric acid troubles—If you suffer from rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, gout, etc., you will find that total immersion in Radox Baths twice a week will do much to relieve these ailments.

E. GRIFFITHS HUGHES LTD., 107, DEANSGATE ARCADE, MANCHESTER.

Let the Merrie Monk bring joy to your party.

When the party is in full swing and the merry-making at its height—bring in the Ginger Wine! At the psychological moment let STONE'S GINGER WINE come to warm the hearts of the little guests—let it add the final festive touch to the occasion—let it complete the success of the party!

FREE PARTY BOOKLET!

Can be obtained from Wine Merchants and Grocers. If unobtainable write STONE'S GINGER WINE (Dept. 8), Finsbury, LONDON, E.C.1.

STONE'S GINGER WINE

Send for our new Illustrated Booklet packed with games and suggestions on the planning and running of parties. Free on receipt of a postcard.

Perfect Foot-Comfort

Wood-Milne

"THILL" SOLES & "SPENWOOD" HEELS.

The **"THILL"** is the lightest, neatest and most unobtrusive of rubber stick-on soles, and being specially backed it does stick and stays stuck.

The **"SPENWOOD"** is unique, being a complete rubber heel, lighter, more comfortable, more durable and far smarter than any leather heel.

Get your Bootman to fix

WOOD-MILNE "Thill" Soles and "Spenwood" Heels.

NOTE THE PRICES

Thill Soles	Child's	Ladies'	Men's
Per pair ..	1/9	2/6	3/3

(including solution)

Spenwood Heels (Men's only), per pair 2/6

If any difficulty in obtaining, write WOOD-MILNE, LTD., 2, Central Buildings, Westminster, S.W.1.

NESTLÉ'S GREAT PRIZE COMPETITION

1,500 Prizes

amounting in all to the magnificent sum of

£8,000 in Cash

all of which must be won by Competitors.

First Prize £2000

2nd Prize £1,000 3rd Prize £500

The Competition will consist of the Public's judgment as to the 10 best of 16 Nestlé's advertisements in the order of merit the public themselves decide. Reduced facsimiles in colour of the 16 advertisements and full particulars of rules will be found with each entrance ticket. The Competition is open to all purchasers of the following Nestlé brands, all of which are absolutely pure and free from chemical preservative or colouring material.

NESTLÉ'S MILK The Richest in Cream.

IDEAL MILK The Best Unsweetened Milk in the world.

NESTLÉ'S EVAPORATED MILK "EVERYDAY BRAND." Prepared in England.

NESTLÉ'S CREAM Pure. Rich. Thick. Safe.

NESTLÉ'S CAFÉ AU LAIT Coffee, milk, and sugar in correct proportions. Only hot water needed.

£4,000 for Charitable Institutions, etc.

IN ADDITION to the prizes to be won by competitors a *minimum* sum of £3,000 will be divided among ten charitable institutions named on the Entrance Tickets. The Competition will be adjudicated by the British Charities Association and a *minimum* sum of £1,000 will also be given them as a donation for the benefit of Voluntary Hospitals and to cover the cost of counting the tickets.

HOW TO OBTAIN ENTRANCE TICKETS:

On the label of every tin of the above-mentioned brands is printed a coupon, any twelve of which pasted on a piece of paper, bearing competitor's name and address, secures a free entrance ticket. Post your sets of Coupons as soon as collected to *Nestlé's Competition, London, E.C.3,* enclosing a large addressed envelope bearing a 1½d. stamp. A free entrance ticket will then be sent to you with full particulars.

N.B.—Complete labels (not the wrappers) without the coupons from tins purchased after 1st August, 1924, are also admissible.

Every entry you make gives you a vote for one of the 10 selected charities and helps to increase the donations.

Start Saving Coupons Today!

Enter at once—No Entry Fees

Ask your grocer for details or send a post card to

NESTLÉ'S COMPETITION, LONDON, E.C.3.

Vol. XXXVII. No. 974
Week ending Saturday, Jan. 10, 1925. Twopence.

JOHN BULL

For the People—the Right to Justice and Truth.

The Paper on which the Sun never Sets.

93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.
Telephone: Gerrard 9366.
Telegrams: Heroically, London.

This Week—

Special Articles by:

Lord William Gascoyne Cecil (Bishop of Exeter)	p. 11	"A Gentleman With a Duster"	p. 16
Dr. R. J. Campbell	p. 7	Alex. M. Thompson ("Dangle")	p. 16
Hesketh Pearson	p. 12	A. G. Gardiner	p. 17
Harrison Owen	p. 12	Alison Neilans	p. 19
Rt. Hon. F. O. Roberts, M.P.	p. 13	Mabel Horner	p. 21
Rt. Hon. William Graham, M.P.	p. 13		

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

oking Back.
Reviewing the past year, it is amazing to note e solid progress towards reconstruction that s been achieved. Only a Statesmanship gone d could fail to turn it to good account.

tling Down.
All over Europe there is not merely a sense returning stability but a real measure of achievent towards that end. The miseries of a half-rted peace are nearing an end.

rning Wheels.
The signs of a genuine trade revival become re and more steadily apparent, and there is niversal belief that better times are at hand. en a little good will, we can see no reason for trusting this optimism.

at Really Counts.
n eleven months our overseas trade has in-sed by £200,000,000. This is a solid fact that commend to the earnest attention of all imists and doubting Thomases.

th Noting.
he last two years 500,000 unemployed have reabsorbed by industry. Not nearly enough hout about, of course, but enough to show things are moving in the right direction.

Big Problem.
e main question that 1925 will answer is ther universal peace or universal war is to e lot of mankind. The responsibilities of smen were never heavier.

-dependent.
year of unbroken effort for peace would many of our domestic difficulties; for depend in no small measure on the military phere that still rules—and disturbs—the

Mainspring.
make no apology for stressing yet again portance of making the League of Nations ty. Defective as it is, it is the only symbol orld possesses of that sanity that is being g delayed.

Why Tinker?
The announcement that £6,000,000 is to be spent immediately on road improvements will be good hearing to many of the unemployed. Why not do the thing properly and float a big Public Works Loan?

It Could Always Be.
The fact that three serious labour disputes have been recently settled without recourse to strike action should have a lesson for all concerned. A fair deal is always possible when hard facts are met with practical sympathies and an honest endeavour to understand.

Opposing Forces.
The struggle in Germany between the civil Government and the military power should not be forgotten by the Conference of Ambassadors when the question of German disarmament is considered.

The Riddle of Cologne.
The Cologne area is becoming as great a puzzle as reparations. If we walked out, France would walk in, and the Ruhr problem would be intensified anew. When will Statesmen drop ideas of revenge and make a determined effort to heal this open sore?

Fostering Revenge.
"If there were a fresh war," says M. Herriot, "France would be wiped off the map." Our reply is that she has been busy for six years providing Germany with an overpowering motive for such a war.

Fallacious France.
A nation of seventy million people cannot be held in permanent subjection, nor reduced to eternal impotence. French policy is at the moment based on a palpable absurdity.

Up Against Realities.
The trouble in Albania calls for immediate investigation and action by the League of Nations. A definite charge by one member of the League against another is a challenge to the League's capacity for wise Government.

Uneasy Consciences?
None of the States that joined in the dismal failure of the Opium Conference is in a hurry to sign the futile agreement that resulted. Since it leaves untouched the main issues with which it should have dealt, it is not a bad sign.

Overdue.
Mussolini, seeing the Red Light, is going to effect a sweeping electoral reform. Not a bad idea if, for different reasons, our Government followed his example.

Hollow Insincerities.
A Greek Loan at 8 per cent. was oversubscribed. An Australian Loan at 5 per cent. is not taken up. Patriotism and Empire Development cannot, apparently, compete with dividends!

Bet They're Pleased!
That the farmers are not up in arms about Mr. Baldwin's proposal to spend £1,000,000 per annum in subsidising Dominion foodstuffs is not, perhaps, surprising. He has presented them with a cast-iron case for a subsidy for themselves.

There Will be Fun!
The more we read, the more we don't understand how Mr. Baldwin proposes to work his wonderful Bill. But we are looking forward to the most entertaining political comedy for years.

Disease Factories.
Wherever a determined effort has been made at slum clearance the immediate result has been a startling reduction in the death-rate of the children. The abolition of these plague-spots has become a matter of national necessity.

Retrogression.
The appalling part of the failure to solve the housing problem is not that we are equally failing to clear the slums. It is that we are busily creating new slums.

Unnecessary Officialdom.
A good New Year Resolution for the Government would be to determine to reduce the cost of the Civil Service, which is now treble what it was in 1913. Bad for the limpets, of course, but very good for the nation.

Too Leisurely.
Although you might not think it, the Food Commission is still sitting. In fact, it begins to look as though it was sitting still. Meanwhile, the price of food creeps up.

And too Unpractical.
We cannot see the need for these elaborate and largely academic inquisitions. What we want is some speedy method of checking the profiteering that is well known to exist on all sides.

Puzzled!
The First Lord of the Admiralty says the only reason for Singapore is to enable us to run our ships in that region more cheaply. We now await his explanation of how that is to be accomplished by an unproductive expenditure of anything up to £50,000,000.

Follow Our Example.
By sheer financial heroism the British taxpayer has enabled the pound to "look the dollar in the face." We invite our friends across the Channel to help the franc to stare the pound in the face by similar means.

Lenin was More Honest!
The Trade Union Delegation to Russia which is shouting that conditions there have enormously improved conveniently forget to add that the improvement is due to the fact that the pure milk of Communism has been very much diluted. Now, why?

Overstepped Bounds.

So far as we can judge Messrs. Purcell and Co. pledged their Party to a wholehearted adherence to "class warfare," when in Russia. They are in for a sad disappointment and so are their Moscow friends.

The Only Way.

The question of Russia is so vitally important to Europe that it is time an official commission was sent to investigate conditions and prospects, composed of disinterested men and women whose report could be received without prejudice or suspicion.

Our Skilled Workers!

An American journal says: "All the immigrants who are coming from Western Europe are particularly fine types. They are healthy and producers." We are paying a heavy penalty for our persistent failure to employ our own healthy producers.

An Old Grouse.

The Ministry of Pensions is still apparently swathed in red tape and devoid of ordinary business methods. Cannot something be done to introduce some of the fresh air of common-sense and the sunlight of human sympathy?

Moving at Last.

The Home Office is becoming seriously concerned about the "arranged" marriages with alien women to enable them to evade the alien law, and we may shortly expect the action we have urged for so long.

And it's Coming.

The *Morning Post* calls the project of taxing land values "fantastic." But it is not nearly so fantastic as the staggering burden of taxation that such a system would sweep away.

There isn't One!

The reduction of fares on the London Tubes brings into prominence again the question of main-line railways. We have yet to see a sound argument against reducing fares and freights.

Vital.

Cheap transit is of such vital importance that we hope Parliament will give the problem its special attention before long. Those who won't see reason must be made to.

A Meat Suggestion.

The new regulations for ensuring a clean meat supply are now in force at Smithfield; and, if housewives will assist by refraining from handling the meat in the retail shops, they will help to establish a long-awaited system of joint control.

The Bill Must Pass.

Money-lenders, both registered and unregistered, are becoming panic-stricken at the prospect of Lord Carson's Bill. Their alarm clearly shows the necessity for legislative checks on their thinly veiled blackmailing activities.

No More!

Bernard Shaw wants to see women filling every post of authority to the exclusion of men, and thinks that every country should be ruled by a woman. Surely, we have enough old women in Whitehall as it is?

"Leg"-al Re-"Dress."

The Lord Chamberlain has been shocked by the posters of the play "White Cargo," with the result that an offending nude leg has now been clothed by means of a paste-over. How true it is that "to the pure all things are impure"!

Grow, Little Much-Room, Grow!

The Ministry of Health announces the immediate construction of twenty-five "demonstration" steel houses to be erected in as many different districts. But Lord Weir's design was approved weeks ago, and we await the belated [illegible] immediate construction.

Sorry Figures.

Divorce cases down for hearing in the coming sittings number no fewer than 1,100—a distressingly eloquent testimony to the fact that all too often marriage turns out to be mirage.

Whom Priests have Joined Together.

Yet the bishops would tighten the marriage-tie instead of loosening it! In other words, the episcopal blessing would remain on the gravest form of immorality—living together without loving together.

The Lamentations of the Rev. Jerry Miah.

The complaint of the Church that any relaxation of the Divorce Laws is at once followed by a corresponding increase in the number of appeals is the acme of bigoted stupidity. Would the parsons complain if a newly erected hospital was affording relief to sufferers?

Bronze Irony.

The medals of Issy Smith, the first Jew to win the V.C. in the war, and now too ill to work, have been redeemed from pawn by certain Good Samaritans. We again emphasise that the V.C. should carry with it an adequate pension. The reward for valor should not be squalor.

Arms and the Girl.

Two South London girls have taken the plucky but alas! unusual course of prosecuting a cad who annoyed them in the street. If girls realised that the publicity of the police court is the best weapon in cases of this nature, the nuisance would soon be removed. Men of this type are cowards, and fight shy of a peck from the "beak."

The Human Machine.

The Open Door.

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

A PROVERB which is not, perhaps, universally true, states that "there is no time like the present."

When it comes to tackling a haunting fear it is the truest thing that could be said.

Remember that all fears are of the future. It is the uncertainty that kills. We spend half our time being miserable about something that has not yet happened—and may never happen.

And this, incidentally, is a fact that should be realised whenever fear obtrudes its ugly head.

But if you find a fear haunting you, don't delay facing up to it for a minute. The longer you delay the worse it will be, and the harder your task of analysis will grow.

Delay allows imagination to take a hand, and imagination has a habit of looking at fear through a magnifying-glass.

Moreover, if you delay your estimation of true and false values, you allow your whole stream of thought to be poisoned at the source.

No good gardener allows an ugly weed to flourish unchecked. He roots it up before it has time to seed and double his labour.

Fear is an exceptionally ugly weed—and its roots go deep. Don't give it a chance to develop.

If you think about one thing too much you end by thinking in circles. Your thought loses force, loses direction. The quickest way out of such a circle is to step out—boldly.

The person obsessed by fear is like the forgotten prisoner who remained in his cell for ten years, until it occurred to him one day to open the door and escape.

There is no time like the present.

That Deadly Veronal.

More deaths from the reckless use of veronal! Perhaps the Home Office will be good enough to indicate how many hundreds of lives it requires to see needlessly sacrificed before taking steps to schedule this poison under the Dangerous Drugs Act. Then we shall know where we stand.

Folly.

Complaint is made that the air post is not patronised as it ought to be. Is it any wonder? When weather holds up the 'planes, mails are kept at Croydon for hours or days to await the next machine instead of being sent in the ordinary way. Thus, instead of being quicker, the air mail is often slower than boat and train.

The Rogues Charter.

The report of the Board of Trade Departmental Committee on Bankruptcy is awaited with interest by every honest trader. The laxity of the present bankruptcy laws gravely hampers the police in their dealings with long-firm frauds. And anything which helps the cheats makes it harder for decent folk to earn a living.

An Unwanted Job, and Why.

For four months the job of outside porter at Strawberry Hill Station has been going begging. The work is fairly hard and the pay somewhere around 30s. a week, and some of the local residents deplore that the country is going to the dogs because no one wants this job. We suggest that one of them takes it on.

A Tyrannous Body.

The latest move of the General Medical Council is to threaten severe pains and penalties against qualified doctors who, by giving anæsthetics, assist skilled bone-setters like Sir Herbert Barker to perform their miracles of healing. The mandarins of the G.M.C. will have to learn that they are the servants of the public, not its masters. The sooner the better.

Topsyturvydom.

At Burgh Castle, in Suffolk, the rates amount to over 16s. 6d. in the pound. They have to be, among other things, continual losses on the guarantee demanded by the Post Office before installing the telephone service. Nothing stranger was ever imagined in topsyturvydom than a small parish having to subsidise a great Government Department in this manner.

Afraid of Farmers.

St. Helens Health Committee is discredited by the astounding statement that although advised by the medical officer to prosecute five farmers for supplying dirty milk they refused for fear the farmers would refuse to supply milk. They are going to talk to the milkmen about clean milk. If any baby is ill in the town owing to drinking dirty milk the committee must be held partly responsible.

Unequal.

The Scots are a hardy race we know, but this hardly justifies the strange inequality of the law under which a life sentence in England rarely reaches twenty years, whereas in Scotland it invariably means detention for life. Apart from unlucky Oscar Slater, there are several Scottish convicts who have been from twenty to thirty years in prison. The matter calls for action.

Admiralty Addle-pates.

It is almost incredible that while decorations, promotion and monetary rewards are being lavishly bestowed upon the officers and men of the Royal Navy who succeeded in recovering over £7,000,000 in gold from the torpedoed *Laurentic*, Commander Geoffrey-Unsworth, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.R., the distinguished officer who located the wreck and made the salvage possible, is denied all recognition, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty declaring that as this service was carried out as part of his duties they are unable to regard it as justifying the grant of any remuneration. What arrant, addle-pated nonsense!

Who are They?

"Fat Lulu," the Paris cocaine queen, has been caught at last, but what about her British satellites? These are indicated clearly in the seized papers. Will Scotland Yard act?

Something.

It is at least something to know that our exposure of the scandal of the Wernher jewels robbery was read by the "heads" of the Yard, but what we look for is action. Is it too much to ask the Home Secretary to "ginger up" the Yard in this matter?

Loan Club Frauds.

The turn of the year has brought to light an exceptional harvest of loan club tragedies. The remedy has been indicated by the Brentford magistrates who demand the compulsory audit of "slate" club accounts. The thrifty savings of the poor should enjoy legal protection.

Very, Very Slow.

Since we referred a fortnight ago to "The Premier Studio," the slow-motion photographic establishment run by Alfred Fry Waddell, at 277, Paisley Road, Glasgow, we have learned that nearly a year ago one of his representatives toured the West of Ireland taking pictures of homes and collecting payment in advance, and in one district in Co. Mayo alone about fifty people are still waiting for their photos but are unable to obtain any reply to their requests for them on the return of their money. If Waddell will not get a move on he deserves to get a move in.

No References Required!

Readers who answered an advertisement asking for representatives received a reply from Thomas Halliday, 167, Princess Street, Manchester, offering to appoint them at a salary of £5 a week and 5 per cent. commission, plus a travelling allowance of £2 a week, without even asking for references! Reading further, they found that they would be required to deposit £2 as security for samples. We advise anyone who is perplexed to know what to do to write to the prospective employer asking for *his* references.

Cool Half Million.

A Teutonic individual whose name, so far as we can make it out from his signature, is W. J. Ziele, celebrated the New Year by sending out letters from Linton's Hotel, Coram Street, W.C., inviting active agents to interest themselves in obtaining loans to be secured by mortgages on properties in Germany said to be valued at nearly £2,000,000, the amount required being about a quarter of this sum. We hope that readers with half a million pending to lend will queue up in an orderly manner, and not cause a riot by rushing to oblige this honest borrower.

Eats Dog.

Dixon Holmes, Ltd., of 35, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who call themselves "The Old Established English Firm of Lenders," sent out a seductive Christmas card inviting people in financial difficulties to consult them. A special feature of their business is indicated thus: "Persons paying big interest to other lenders can have their loans readjusted at very much reduced terms of interest and repayment." We can imagine that among such a wolfish breed dog does not eat dog, but we counsel readers not to place any faith in those "very much reduced terms."

Principal's Interest.

C. Heath, B.A., sometime Principal of the National Bargain Co., formerly of 51, Shaw Street, and since removed to 15, Paradise Street, Liverpool, a mail order tuition concern which we noticed some time ago, now writes from his private address at 118, Princes Road, Liverpool, to erstwhile pupils who demand that he shall carry out the guarantee of success on the strength of which they paid £6 6s., declaring that he is "no longer officially connected with the above company," but advising them to purchase face cream from the company and retail it at a profit. Whether "officially connected" or not, he seems to retain a considerable interest in the concern.

Problems of Life.

A Life-Giving Principle

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

WHEN a famous man writes his own life- to y with the secure knowledge and intention that it shall not appear till long after his death, we expect something spicy.

Mark Twain's Autobiography was produced in this way and is full of good things racily told, though not many which might not have been revealed while their author was still alive.

One of the most beautiful passages in the book is the great writer's tribute to his mother, and it contains a piece of shrewd and penetrating comment upon human life.

He says: "The greatest difference which I find between her and the rest of the people whom I have known is this, and it is a remarkable one: those others felt a strong interest in a few things, whereas to the very day of her death she felt a strong interest in the whole world and everything and everybody in it. In all her life she never knew such a thing as a half-hearted interest which drew a line and left out certain affairs and was indifferent to certain people.

"The invalid who takes a strenuous and indestructible interest in everything and everybody but himself, and to whom a dull moment is an unknown thing and an impossibility, is a formidable adversary for disease and a hard invalid to vanquish."

The concluding portion of this statement is as experimentally sound as the converse is unhappily demonstrable from daily observation.

There is a correspondence between the spirit we show in relation to the business of living, and our own physical and mental states.

Self-centred persons are not healthy-minded and seldom appear so.

Chronic invalidism is often a state of mind more than a state of body.

Not always, of course. I know some unselfish sufferers who never give in, and who scarcely spend any time in thinking about their ailments.

THE open secret of happy living is to be "unselfed." The more we can turn our thoughts outward instead of inward, and take a friendly and cheerful interest in the life around us, the better for ourselves.

Brooding on one's personal ills is a sure way to invite bad conditions internal and external.

Resolutely to decline to be self-bound, and on the contrary, to keep heart and mind full of "the feeling of the whole" is a vitalising principle of wonderful efficacy.

It makes for health of body and soul.

*** *Many of Dr. Campbell's previous articles have just been published in book form under the title of "A Book of Homely Wisdom"* (5s. *John Lane.*)

Claptrap for Clerks.

Unemployed clerks who answered an advertisement in a Northern newspaper recently were surprised and disgusted to receive a reply from W. H. Banks, of 19, King's Bench Street, Hull, who impudently informed them that there was no necessity for them to be applying for situations as clerks, and proceeded to put forward the suggestion that they should send him half-guineas for particulars of mail order trading schemes. Such deceptive methods of getting into touch with people who are out of work are despicable beyond description.

Fleece and Flit.

A reader in far-off British Guiana, seeing an advertisement in a local newspaper, got into touch with a concern called the Astonia Manufacturing Co., of 49, Airedale Road, Bradford, who appointed him agent for the sale of woollen goods and tropical suitings. He sent them a number of orders, enclosing cash which was duly acknowledged, but after seven months had passed without his receiving the goods he thought it time to ask us to do what we could to hasten delivery. The Astoria Manufacturing Co. have "Gone away," leaving this tale behind them.

Gone West.

The telegraphic address of "Lucky," adopted by a firm of bookmakers called West & Co., of 42, Bridge Street, Bristol, seems to be a snare and a delusion. After losing £1 4s. 5d., which he paid, one of our readers wired them a wager on a winner at 5 to 1, but he has been unable to obtain payment. As all our communications as well as his own are ignored, we cannot say definitely whether the firm have "Gone West" or not, but our reader's money evidently has, and others should take warning.

STORMS! FLOODS!
"JOHN BULL" is the ONLY PAPER that pays Benefits.
See page 2.

Into the Future.

Crafty charlatans in the provinces are making heaps of easy money by preying on the superstitious, and at the same time destroying happiness in many homes. Fortune-telling in many ways, crystal-gazing in the atmosphere of black curtains, and all manner of trickery is indulged in. Large numbers of working women are handing over their husband's earnings to the tricksters, whose profitable game the police should bring to an end.

No Novelty.

B. Barker, who heads his communication c/o R. A. Hughes & Co., 36, Manestys Lane, Liverpool, sends applicants who answer his advertisement for "several persons of intelligence and ability" a polysyllabic but illiterate screed relating to what he calls "a unique and novel method of running a business," particulars of which he is willing to furnish for the sum of £1. There is nothing unique or novel about this sort of thing, and we cannot imagine any person of intelligence and ability being foolish enough to fall into the trap.

Shorn Lambs.

The wind is not tempered to the shorn lambs who gamble on the Turf with Gale & Co., of 13, Hampstead Road, N.W. In spite of repeated requests for settlement which we have made on behalf of readers who have been unable to obtain payment of winnings on racing and football wagers, they remain obdurate, and ignobly allow the agents who trusted them to bear the brunt of the displeasure caused by their default. The firm should be shunned.

One Way of Making Money.

Charles Beresford & Son, 50, Perrer's Road, W., who advertise clerical homework and ask applicants to enclose a stamped addressed envelope for particulars, send in return a printed circular containing the usual clap-trap about money-making plans which they are willing to disclose to anyone on payment of 5s. One of the little ways in which they make money themselves is by removing 1½d. stamps from applicants' envelopes and replacing them with ½d. ones.

THE POISONED LETTER

HOW MONEYLENDERS TEMPT THE NEEDY

The Bait in the Letter Box

THE law allows men and women to be tortured, to be driven to disgrace and ruin, by social pests called moneylenders.

We have turned the light of publicity time after time on these obese and smiling rascals. We are afraid they will go on shrugging their shoulders and laughing until Parliament wakes up and deals with them firmly.

What is the difficulty, for example, of stopping moneylenders from sending unsolicited circulars through the post?

The public would be astounded if it knew the extent of this evil. We have before us a heap of circulars of this kind. These unsolicited offers to lend money are a terrible temptation to people in distress.

Amongst the impudent touts are the people who run J. Marsh, Limited, 107, Jermyn Street, W., about which we have received innumerable complaints. Then there is Mr. H. G. Lewis, 35, Duke Street, St. James's, London, W., whose telegraphic address is "Eggshell." Most borrowers find that the moneylenders get the egg while they are left with the shell.

Another firm is Leonard Lloyd, Limited, of 9, South Moulton Street, London, S.W.1. Mayfair is the home of the obtrusive financier. Just as Mr. Lewis was formerly Mr. Gotliffe, so Mr. J. W. Lloyd was formerly Mr. Emmanuel George Levy.

Another enterprising firm is L. Fane, Limited, Bond Street House, S.W., which specialises in circularising Army officers.

Fane, Limited, is run by Louie Freedman, of 14, Brondesbury Villas, Kilburn, who is a notorious figure in money-lending circles.

Mayfair has many rivals in the provinces. We pause here only to mention one—Laurence Andrews, Limited, of 41, High Street, Watford, which is run by a person named Goodrich.

Leaving these experts in unsolicited invitations, what of the methods pursued by many moneylending sharps in this country? Some of them are mere fee-snatchers like Mr. Albert E. Hunt, of Derby, with his branch office at 7, Yelverton Road, Bournemouth.

He recently charged a Dawlish applicant a preliminary fee of 5s. for expenses and as a guarantee of the borrower's good faith. He gave no guarantee of his own, did not make the loan, saying it was not approved, and declined to return the 5s. In this case the enquiry appeared to be limited to sending a letter from the applicant explaining what his wages were, and other particulars called for on a printed form.

Lord Carson, who is introducing a Bill to deal with this evil.

If Mr. Hunt reads many letters of this kind a day at this fee, he is obviously doing well.

An ex-officer, anxious to avoid further publicity, has told us the story which led him to the Bankruptcy Court. He has since paid 20s. in the £, satisfying the bloodsuckers for the sake of his own financial reputation.

He borrowed £50 from one man at 200 per cent. When he could not pay he was taken to another moneylender who lent him the money to pay the first. In due time he had been passed through the hands of no fewer than seven moneylenders, had paid hundreds of pounds in interest, and still owed more than his original loan. He was finally put into bankruptcy because he was two hours late in paying an instalment of a mere £10.

These sharks work into one another's hands. In one case, where the victim had borrowed £20, an associate of the lender tried to borrow £5 from him, as he was going away with the loan. Another lender, having advanced some money, tried to persuade the borrower to buy some jewellery from him, assuring him that he could sell it for a profit. Their tricks are endless, and all aim at squeezing the orange dry.

Some moneylenders find rich victims. When Maria Gertrude, Baroness Decies, came before the Bankruptcy Court, she said that she had borrowed £17,000 from moneylenders, had repaid over £13,000, and still owed something like £40,000! Clearly some of the financial gentry had done enormously well out of her.

Moneylender's victims go to jail because they steal to get out of their oppressors' clutches. Suicides of other dupes are also common, like that of the Rev. Bernard Blake, of Irthington, upon whom five moneylender's writs were found when his dead body was taken from the River Irthing.

Yet His Majesty's mails are daily being used to flood the country with circulars, tempting the unwary to what may ultimately lead them to ruin and despair and possibly to the suicide's grave.

We call for an alteration of the law that will prevent this.

Zummat Odd in Zomerset

"Zomething for nothing!" zay zaucy zwindlers

AMONG the minor difficulties with which wholesale traders have to contend, the sample swindler is one of the most annoying. It is not unusual for large concerns to receive requests from reputable firms asking for samples of goods to be sent to them with the view of orders to follow, and this trade custom has been seized upon by shady individuals as a means of obtaining something for nothing.

A typical instance of the way in which this swindle is worked has recently been brought to our notice by a London wholesaler.

Some months ago he received a request from the Bourne Supply Co., of 40, Highfield Road, Winton, Bournemouth, a concern purporting to be run by S. A. Heber and E. Wells, asking for a sample pair of unbleached twill sheets to be sent, promising that if the sample proved satisfactory an order for several dozen pairs would follow.

The sample was duly forwarded, and two days later a further request for samples of artificial silk jumpers and Turkish towels was received. These samples were also sent. As no orders were forthcoming, an account was submitted a short time afterwards, and this was returned marked "Gone, no address."

S. A. Heber, however, had not gone far. He had simply skipped over the boundary into the adjoining county and recommenced business under another name. He next appears as the Somerset Drapery Co., a concern purporting to consist of R. Brooks, W. Brooks and E. Jarvis, trading in drapery, toys and fancy goods at Whatley House, Langport, Somerset.

From this address, a few weeks ago, the same wholesaler was astonished to receive a request for samples of Turkish towels, written on the same sort of paper in the same handwriting, the only difference being the printed heading and the signature. Whereas the signature of the Bourne Supply Co. was followed by the initials S.A.H., that of the Somerset Drapery Co. was initialled R.B., but obviously by the same hand.

Shy of the prospect of being bitten twice, the wholesaler wrote asking for a remittance to cover the cost of the samples. At the same time he communicated with the Superintendent of Police at Langport, realising that it is, to say the least, unusual for firms of any standing to select a village of about seven hundred and fifty inhabitants as the centre of their activities.

No answer was received from the Somerset Drapery Co., but the information furnished by the police proved enlightening, for it showed that this grandiose style was simply a camouflage of the identity of the man named Heber, who had taken lodgings at the address given!

Hero's Race Against Time

Our appeal answered

IN a race against time we recently told the story of Lieutenant A. G. Elliott, of Camberley, who for three years has been knocking in vain at the door of the Ministry of Pensions, and asking for the help that is due to him, and without which he has nothing to look forward to except to give up the struggle and die.

This unfortunate ex-officer contracted tuberculosis whilst serving in Palestine, in a lonely and unhealthy station. He did not complain. He was one of the kind who see their duty and do it, who face hardships and sufferings and stick it.

Twice he was sent to hospital—once because he was blown up when a train filled with shells exploded, and again because he was stricken down with sunstroke.

Pension Refused

The hacking cough grew worse. When he was demobilised he fought against it. Unhappily it won. He had to come home. He got a medical board. But in his military medical papers there was nothing about tuberculosis—simply because he had never complained of it. His pension was refused.

He had recovered from shell-shock and from sunstroke, and officialdom had, therefore, no further interest in him. The tuberculosis remained. His doctors took the matter up. His aged father, who had retired, came back and took a job at thirty shillings a week to support his son. Finally the Ministry agreed to give him an Appeal. That was in June, but no date for the appeal was announced, and, in the meantime, this stricken hero had become bedridden.

We published the story and demanded immediate action—a tribunal for a dying man before he died. We are glad to record the sequel. Within a few days of our article appearing it was officially announced that a tribunal had been fixed for January 9. It will have to sit at his bedside.

The Bulldog Breed

Further, our article has produced an invaluable piece of evidence. An officer who served with Elliott in Palestine has written to us to say that all his colleagues knew that Elliott had developed obvious and unmistakable tuberculosis during his service. "He was a wonderful sticker and never complained."

We have sent this gentleman's name and address on to the authorities with a request that his evidence be called for, as the papers concerning Lieut. Elliott's case appear to have been lost in Egypt owing to the disturbed state of that country.

And we plainly warn the Ministry of Pensions that if poor Lieut. Elliott dies before his pension, and the arrears are paid to his father, indignant country will hold it to President Wilson's famous phrase "To strict accountability."

£30,000,000 SWINDLE UNMASKED

MILLIONAIRE ROGUES WHO PRACTISE THE MOST AMAZING FRAUDS OF MODERN TIMES

Living in Luxury while Scotland Yard is Baffled

HE commercial honour of Britain is one of its brightest jewels. It is being tarnished by a gang of rascals, mostly aliens, who by plundering honest traders and laugh at the blundering, clumsy, laborious efforts of the police outwit them.

The situation has become so bad we deem it necessary to turn the of publicity upon the dark ces and to show the extent of conspiracy in order that public nion may be roused to demand prompt and effective steps be en to put an end to it.

he "Long Firm Fraud Gang," as called, is the cancer that is ng into the vitals of British trade. ording to official statistics, some- like thirty million pounds has lost to the textile trade alone ugh bogus bankruptcies, which he chief weapon in the armoury e "Long Firm" swindlers.

r-time Activities

typical case on the textile ers' black list will illustrate how ame is worked. Many people read of the failure of a concern Cantor and Company, Limited, was engaged in the woollen , but they do not know the true rdness of the story which lies this cunningly planned er.

firm was run by a person Solomon Michaels, his son n, and his son-in-law, Myer . Michaels was a Polish Jew real name was Leschinsky, uring the war he made a great of money by making khaki ms. After the war, when the came, the "Long Firm" gang him their get-rich-quick ds.

er their influence, the firm of and Company ordered goods value of £12,000, few of which aid for. These goods were sold as they arrived for whatever ould fetch. No books were When the creditors became a bogus burglary was ed to explain the missing and books, and to justify a or insurance which had been rom £5,000 to £15,000 before h was engineered.

lumsy "Burglary"

burglary was, unlike many of d, too clumsily faked, and s, his son, and son-in-law all jail.

ng into their accounts, such were, we find that they hat nearly £4,000 was owed by a man named Smullen, rly £2,000 was owed to them n called Hemmings and Com- We say quite plainly that mullen and Hemmings are creditors.

ame of Smullen is notorious Long Firm" swindles. In less than a year the use of this name has, we are able to say, brought in the astonishing amount of six million pounds to the swindlers!

Some time ago the police got hold of another person named Leopold Adler, who, after a few months trading, went bankrupt and admitted giving a faked explanation of the disappearance of something like five thousand pounds worth of goods.

The goods of course were sold for cash, but Adler's story was that they had been sold on credit to, and not paid for by, the same firm of Hemmings which proved so useful to the rascal Michaels of Cantor & Company.

A Russian Pole named Winchovech set up in business as a woollen merchant in Golden Square, London, W. He was associated with a man named Fisher whose real name is Tichler, the son of Russian parents. Goods to the value of many thousands of pounds disappeared, and one of the firms which were rused for the purpose of the manipulation was Clayton and Company, which is an alias for the familiar Hemmings and Company.

Persistent Hemmings

Samuel Kosminsky, a mantle manufacturer, of Beech Court, Barbican, recently went bankrupt for something like fifteen thousand pounds, of which over fourteen thousand pounds represented goods which he had obtained on credit. Of course these goods had been sold for cash, but when asked to account for them Kosminsky said that he had sold over four thousand pounds worth of goods to a firm which had not paid for them.

The name of the wicked firm was Hemmings and Company, the friend of Mr. Solomon Michaels hereinbefore mentioned. Like Michaels, Kosminsky had a comic burglary.

A man named Maurice Clements started business as a woollen merchant at 64, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Within twelve months he went bankrupt with liabilities of eighteen thousand pounds, and assets of about two hundred. Asked to account for his losses, he said he had supplied nearly four thousand pounds worth of goods to a firm which had not paid him. The name of the defaulting firm, it will surprise nobody to learn, was Hemmings and Company.

Blind Authorities

A child could see that this connecting link indicates a wholesale conspiracy to defraud, but whether the Public Prosecutor's Department is overworked, or the police arrangements are badly co-ordinated, these things do not seem to be effectively brought to the notice of the Bench, which frequently gives mild and inadequate sentences.

This must stop. It is providing the very encouragement that the law should withhold.

From investigations we have made we are in a position to say that there are half a score of wealthy rogues in the background who have got the

Sir Henry Dickens, K.C., who has said that this crime is a danger to the business community.

"Long Firm" business down to a fine art. They set up mere boys in business, show them how to get credit, and, when the crash comes, the boys go to jail and the master criminals pocket the profits and promise to look after the offenders when they come out.

Amongst the aliases used by these master crooks—frequently borrowing, by the way, the names of reputable business men in the textile trade—are Cohen, Roberts, Rubenstein, Fisher, Rutter, Kelly and Koffman.

Fake Ledger Factory

There exists a factory which makes new ledgers look like old ones. At one time the defaulting bankrupt used to plead that his books had been lost, either through fire or burglary. When one or two of them went to jail for unsatisfactory answering, they gave up this game, and cooked their books in "new-old" ledgers.

From information now in our possession we have no doubt that if the police had investigated the affairs of Max Clapper, who got hold of fifty thousand pounds worth of goods without paying for them and went to jail for attempting to defraud an insurance company, they would find that he paid considerable sums of money to certain people, apparently quite respectable, but who were the master rogues who "ran" him. The police were completely baffled as to where all the money had gone.

Clapper, by the way, was one of the fictitious creditors of a Russian boy who called himself Davis, who failed with a loss to his dupes of nearly £30,000.

One of the most notorious of the master crooks is well known in the underworld as a man who not only engineers "Long Firm" frauds but also finances a gang of rogues who specialise in stealing motor-cars. This man is a generous donor to charities and an active Freemason.

Another of the crooks connected with Smullen's frauds is a titled personage, and the police dossiers are full of information about him, though, so far, he has not been identified with the "Long Firm" gang.

The police can get on the track of these rascals if they will employ an accountant to go through the accounts of a dozen of the more notorious fraudulent bankrupts—even though these accounts are badly kept—and find out who are the persons who constantly appear as creditors in all these "put-up" jobs. They could also find who signed the cheques for the initial capital in many of these ventures.

How they Escape

The rogues rely on the fact that it is not a criminal offence to finance people who run a fraudulent business. But if it can be proved, and it is capable of proving, that certain men repeatedly finance businesses which are fraudulent, that should be sufficient evidence to justify a prosecution for conspiracy.

The matter is urgent because it is well known in the underworld that several of these crooks have pooled some of their resources in order to found an apparently respectable business in the City. This concern has excellent offices, does a legitimate business, and is especially punctilious about paying its accounts.

The business has already been going for a year. Its credit is excellent. It is proposed to run it for another two years.

Greatest Coup of All

Then the intention is to engineer the master coup of the master crooks. It is hoped to get credit for hundreds of thousands of pounds and to go smash with faked books, bogus creditors and the welcome system of a carefully planned piece of arson. An expert crook is boasting in the underworld that he has already received a retainer on this account.

The scandal is a very grave one. The robbed traders frequently go bankrupt, have to close down their works, and throw their employees out of their jobs. In general, goods cost the public more, and the illicit competition of stolen goods is a serious handicap and hardship to the honest trader.

The Augean stables must be cleansed. The public is not content with the occasional imprisonment of mere agents who are well paid for their silence and suffering. Arrest the master crooks!

The Catch in Kitchen

Waiters who Wait

THE House of Commons used to be described as the best club in the world. But it is somewhat surprising to hear of the way in which the waiters and kitchen staff are treated.

The salary of a Member of Parliament goes on whether he is sick or well, and whether the House is sitting or not.

But the poor waiters who attend to our legislators get no money when a session comes to an end and in the interval before the next session begins.

They have to pick up their living as best they can. The probability is that the Members of Parliament are themselves quite unaware of this manifestly unjust arrangement, and we respectfully suggest to them on behalf of a hard-working and respectable body of men that they should urge the Kitchen Committee to make some better arrangement.

The waiters do not complain of the wages paid while the House is sitting, though the hours are long, or of the food they get. But they are oppressed by the constant anxiety of what may happen to them during the intervals between the Sessions; the spectre of debt haunts them always.

This should not be in the service of the Mother of Parliaments. It is said that the State should show itself a model employer. So certainly should Parliament.

Spuds and Duds

Business in a New Way

WE think that the Chatteris Produce Company, Ltd., of Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, would do well to improve its methods.

The firm is described as potato, carrot and mangold merchants, and this summer it appears to have bought a good deal of produce from local growers.

An ex-Service man named Charles Lawson, of Everton, Sandy, Beds, who farms a small-holding of between five and six acres, last summer sold his crop of potatoes for £35 to the Chatteris Company. They sent him a cheque in due course, but it has not been met. In plain words it was a dud. So far he has only had £2 or £3 on account, aud nearly £30 is owing to him.

If Chatteris and Company cannot pay they might at least refrain from writing impertinent letters. There is no excuse, for writing to a creditor "if you insist upon coming over to Chatteris after Monday we shall make you wait as long as possible."

This is certainly a very haughty attitude for a firm which has taken a man's potatoes, has presumably sold them, or if not ought to have done so, and has kept their client's money.

USING PEERS FOR BAIT

Housing Scheme to Catch the Unwary

THE world knows little of its greatest men, and when a gentleman comes forward with a proposal to show us how to solve that great national problem, the housing question, he ought at least to be looked upon with becoming attention.

Such a gentleman is Mr. G. Trafford Hewitt, the Chairman of a concern called Streatham Tenants, Limited, which proposes to build hundreds of flats and houses at prices which leave us astonished at their moderation.

We certainly cannot reproach ourselves with not paying a certain amount of attention to Mr. Trafford Hewitt and his schemes. We dealt with them two months ago, when people were being asked to pay a pound to join the Society.

Quite frankly we thought it all too good to be true, and we said so when the concern was first mooted. We also advised intending investors to ask what was its financial strength and what guarantees it could give that it would ever be able to erect houses, not by the hundred but even by the score.

Streatham Tenants, Limited, made what appeared to be a triumphant reply. It is true it did not produce any houses, but it produced a prospectus inviting subscriptions for something like half a million pounds. And on that prospectus were the names of Sir W. Lane Mitchell, M.P., as president, and Viscount Leverhulme and Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck as vice-presidents.

We confess that we were, we do not say staggered, but certainly puzzled by this unexpected development, but long experience has taught us to be sceptical when people propose to build houses in such a manner. We should still be sceptical if half the peerage, or, indeed, the entire peerage, were on the prospectus.

We were further amazed, but not convinced, when the *Times* and other leading newspapers published glowing accounts of this Streatham enterprise. We should not be convinced if all the daily papers published full pages of praise.

The *Times* referred to Mr. Trafford Hewitt as having had wide experience in garden city planning both in this country and in Canada and the United States. This was more flattering than our reference to him as president of the Anglo-American Texas Oil Corporation, which sold a lot of shares in this country without distributing an adequate return in the oil of gladness and the gush of dividends.

To return to our doubts. They have not been removed, but strengthened. The prospectus also included an inset which was apparently a transcript from the literature of another society, which has taken action for an infringement of its copyright and has now been granted an injunction with costs.

Moreover, Sir W. Lane Mitchell, M.P., and Sir Arthur C. Roberts, who was described in the prospectus as the auditor, have both repudiated the use of their names as entirely unauthorised, and have demanded and obtained from Hewitt a written apology. Lord Leverhulme is away from home, and we have been unable to ask him if the use of his name was authorised. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., will, we do not doubt, also have something to say on this subject.

We understand that thousands of people have subscribed their pounds, more optimistic about this venture than we are. We do not know whether they will ever get their houses.

After such a disastrous beginning, we advise them not to part with any more money.

His Awful Crime!

THERE are some people in prison who certainly ought not to be there. Amongst this class is a man named Love, of Charlton Horethorne, near Sherborne, Dorset.

Love committed a terrible crime. He broke a window of a local labour Exchange. The country must be protected against serious perils of this kind, and so Love was not reprimanded and given a chance to pay for the damage, but was incontinently hauled away by the police, and thrown into jail for three months.

Poor Love, however, is better off in jail than out of it. During the war he fought for his King and country, and came out of the Army with a blameless character. He could not get regular work, as he had to pawn his cabinet-worker's tools; but recently got a job at Bournemouth, which did not last long.

Some days after returning home, hungry and penniless, with his children crying for food, he walked five miles to Sherborne to draw his dole. He could not get it. For some unexplained reason his papers had not come through from Bournemouth. He walked sorrowfully back to his desolate, fireless, hungry home.

His wife says he is a good man, never enters a public-house and, when he is in work, brings home every penny he earns.

The poor fellow was tired. He had walked ten miles on an empty stomach. There was only a little food in the house. He tightened his belt like a gallant ex-soldier and, for the sake of his wife and children, started again to tramp, on an empty stomach, the five-mile journey back to Sherborne to ask if he could not get the dole or a few shillings to buy food for his dear ones. It was refused.

For a moment the old soldier lost his head. The sight of his agonised wife, and his two little boys praying on their knees to God for bread swam before his eyes, and he smashed a window.

We share the sympathy of the people of Sherborne for this unhappy man, and ask officialdom if there is no effective way of helping poor devils like Love.

Whittington Up-to-date

AT an appropriate season of the year, let us introduce to you a modern Dick Whittington, a lad of twenty-two, who will have cause to remember Christmas, 1924, as long as he lives.

He is Mr. Edward F. Robertson, of 1, North Place, Old Headington, near Oxford. His cheery smile is only to be expected, for he has just received from JOHN BULL the enormous sum of Fifteen Hundred Guineas the First Prize in "Bullets" Christmas Offer.

A day or two before Christmas a telegram arrived at the little house where he lives with his elderly parents. It was addressed to his mother, in whose name Mr. Robertson had entered, and she was astounded to read of the wonderful success her boy had earned.

So it was that, a few days later, Dick Whittington up to date made his first journey to London—to receive the fortune he had already won. And though he found the streets of London paved with mud instead of gold, his cheque for £1,575 proved very real indeed.

"What a wonderful Christmas present!" he exclaimed delightedly. "I lost my job as a footman through illness some months ago, so this money will mean a very great deal to me."

"How did I think out my winning *Bullet*? To tell you the truth, I don't remember thinking it out at all! I had read in the newspapers that the Prince of Wales had been out hunting again, and seen a picture of him at a 'jump.' Directly I saw the *Example* 'Heart of The Empire' well, the *Bullet*, 'Jumps We Prince Does' seemed just to jump into my mind!"

"This is the first cash prize I have ever won in *Bullets*," he continued. "My father told me I was wasting my time, but my mother encouragement and one or two 'get' prizes kept me at it."

"No—I am not married," he laughingly assured us, "though will make no guarantees for the future—*now*."

Perhaps it is as well for this cessful young bachelor that Year is just over!

THE HOUSE *without* A NUMBER

THE poor dislike the workhouse. It is hard to give up the bits of sticks that have made a home, and go into a strange union. Is there no way of humanising the administration?

by LORD WILLIAM GASCOYNE CECIL
(*Bishop of Exeter*)

THE poor are always with us. In the Middle Ages countless monasteries ministered to them. When the monasteries were robbed, Queen Elizabeth, nder the advice of Cecil, secured the poor from tarvation by the Poor Law.

But much has yet to be done, and I am glad o see the Government is going to deal with the uestion fully.

I have visited a good number of union workouses, and have always found the inmates very ell treated. The wards are always clean and arm and the occupants well fed, and yet there something lacking in these well-lit wards.

I have often asked myself what is it that makes e poor people dislike the "House"; and, rther, why should not we, who pay rather heavy or rates, have at least the privilege of knowing at the poor are really happy?

Old people resent the discipline and loss of eedom which must be necessary in an instition. They dislike leaving the homes which ean so much to them; and they fear the miliation which is associated in their minds h a Poor Law Institution. Women feel this en more than men.

ere's no Place e Home.

t may be that an old woman's home is of a y humble character, hardly larger than the l in which a horse is stabled, but there the lady has sat hour after hour looking round at dingy walls; for on those dingy walls hang ny a little picture, tawdry, worthless things, each has to her a history.

ne was given her when her boy was born, who was killed in the war; that china ornat was a wedding present; that funeral card is card of the dearest friend of her girlhood; old chair in which she sits was the chair in ch her father sat, in which he died.

he can just look through the window which mands a view of the road, she can see her hbours' children going to school, and that nds her of the days of her youth. When s in the union all that little world will be en from her.

gain, when she is in her home, it may be she has but very little tea in her cupboard, he can make it when she likes. Can you er, you who are always talking of a free try, can you wonder that an English woman her liberty? Why should not an old sh woman have a right to her liberty as as any young man?

Family that Broken.

that woman's life has been one long effort tain her self-respect, and for many years as succeeded. When she married, her was always one of the cleanest, her husband f the happiest, only he died of a wasting e and left her to struggle along with two en. She carried on the struggle nobly; an hour did she spend at the wash-tub, long before dawn to get her work done. er son was killed in the war, her daughter d and is gone right across the seas, and he is left alone—and there is only the left.

's sorrow for her is followed by a feeling of ndignation against a system which forces to this unfair position. She keenly feels miliation.

other day, as I was going home, I passed man; I knew him through passing him often at the same place at the same time. When many people were writing in the papers about the Poor Law I thought I would ask his opinion. He told me he had got the old age pension, but he found it cold work living on 10s. a week. His room was large and his fire small, and he paid 1s. 6d. for that room. "But," he added, "I am doing better this year than last year, for last year I had only 7s. 6d."

I said to him: "Why don't you go into the union?" He said, "Ah, I worked hard to get a few things together and I like to look at them in my old age."

Christianity on 10/- a week.

As I left him I asked myself why, indeed, should that man be separated from his few old things? He looked the picture of ill-health, he clearly had not many days left of his weary pilgrimage on earth; why should not Britain let him spend those days of pilgrimage in peace? No doubt the same spirit that made him hold out and endure cold and discomfort on a few shillings a week was the same spirit that made the men stand firm in the War, and so save Britain. why should we not admire that spirit, cultivate it, praise it, reward it?

The Rt. Hon. John Burns, the greatest advocate of Poor Law reform.

I was very interested in his life after he had told me how he lived, and I asked him another day what he was doing, as I met him every day at the same place as I left my work. He said he had been to the church, I suppose to the cathedral, so I asked what he had been doing there, and he answered, "I always was a churchman, I believe in God, and God will see me through."

I wondered how many of the churchmen with whom I was in constant contact would remain good churchmen on 10s. a week and still believe that God would see them through.

A D.S.O. for the Poor.

I should like to see the Poor Law modified. I do not say it is cruel; I think in many ways it is kind, but I feel, as it labours under a reputation of humiliating those it helps, even its kindest acts are misinterpreted. When a poor person gains admission into some almshouse he is quite pleased because the admission into the almshouse is associated with a good character. Do I hear my Poor Law friends say this is maudlin sentimentality? But if it is, so much else in our social life is sentimentality, for self-respect and a desire for honour are acknowledged to be a rightful stimulus.

There is a theory among the well-to-do classes that they have a right of a monopoly of the desire for honours, that it is quite reasonable for the local magnate to seek a knighthood, for the clergyman to value a prebendal stall, for the officer to wish for a D.S.O. after his name, that they rightly desire the respect of their neighbours, but that it is very unreasonable for an old and poor man to feel a similar wish and to desire to die respected by his neighbours, as he has been through the whole of his life. Human nature is the same in all classes, and what is right for one is right for another.

I should like to suggest that not only should virtuous and honourable people be secured against humiliation, but that merit should be recognised by the State, and that they should receive some mark by which everyone should know that as they have served Britain well, so Britain had valued their service.

They should never be asked to associate with people of bad character, as they are now in the mixed Workhouse, or herded together with half idiots, and made to feel that poverty is a disgrace, if not a crime.

They should live where they liked, and if they went into any institution they should only be asked to associate with men and women of like high character to themselves. Perhaps we might induce private citizens to give them privileges.

Then I should like to see the workhouse infirmary changed in status, no longer called the "workhouse infirmary," but the "infirmary," to which all classes could resort if they needed it. The richer would have to pay for themselves either wholly or partially, the very poor would have to be paid for out of the common purse.

Extravagant Administration.

The difference between infirmary and hospital should cease to exist, both should be under the same management, largely directed by the doctors, and this would not only save the infirmary from any sense of stigma or Poor Law taint, but it would be a benefit to all classes; for many a time the workhouse infirmary is the only hospital in the country to which a case of sudden illness or injury can be taken.

We all feel that those who are deficient in intellect should go to a specialised institution, also that maternity cases should be divided, so that women of good character should not be asked to associate with those whose conversation must revolt them.

Again I hear my friends saying all this will cost a great deal of money, but I doubt whether it would be so if there was a proportionate economy in the mechanism by doing away with the present overlapping of the systems of national assistance. Few realise the extravagance of the present arrangement where we have Poor Relief, Old Age Pensions and Military Pensions all under separate organisations, but all paid for by the rates or taxation that we pay. But even if it costs more, I would remind them that it is false economy to tolerate a system which promotes discontent.

Distrust of the Master.

The difficulty, as much in our industrial world as in our political world, lies not so much in the fact that there is a difference of ideas in the various classes in which a community is divided, but in the distrust which makes strikes take place for little reason, and which makes men unwilling to do their best at their work for fear of benefiting the master whom they distrust.

Re-establish a feeling of friendliness, show that there is a spirit of reasonable consideration, and if you spend money you save it; but, above all, convince the many thousands who stand outside the Church of the real sincerity of our Christian principles by showing due care for those whom Our Lord declared were His representatives upon earth, the honourable poor.

JOHN BULL

The Sentence of the Court

MUDDLING THE MAILS

"Post"-Mortem Horrors

by HARRISON OWEN

HOLDING its collective nose, the Court listened to the reading of a charge against Sir William Mitchell-Thomson, Bart., the Postmaster-General, of having unlawfully detained a pot of cream. Mr. Justice Bull decided that it would not be necessary to put in the cream as an exhibit, and ordered its immediate removal to the mortuary.

• • •

"Having regard to the evidence of their own olfactory organs," began Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "the jury will have no difficulty in accepting my statement that the very dead 'letter' which is the subject of this charge was posted from Branscombe on December 23 and did not reach Dover until December 30. Whether gas-masks were supplied to the postmen who had to deliver this parcel and sundry packages which were similarly delayed, I do not know, but it would certainly appear to be time that the Post Office was renamed the post-mortem office.

"I DO not ask the jury to confine their attention to a solitary pot of what was once cream, or to any one consignment of fish sent through the post and scented through post office inefficiency. On the contrary, I bring an accusation of wholesale muddling and mismanagement against the postal authorities.

"My indictment dates much farther back than Christmas and is not confined to the mail (or snail) delivery branch, for complaints of the late delivery and non-delivery of telegrams and their mutilation in transmission have been as numerous as the grievances of telephone subscribers. Never in its history has the post office been more woefully mismanaged, the Christmas muddle having been merely the last straw which broke, or 'got up,' the back of that patient camel, the public."

• • •

Mr. Strawsplitter said that some citizens imagined that the purchase of a 1½d. stamp entitled them to have a letter rushed from one end of the country to the other by relays of carrier pigeons, zebras and postmen with winged heels; while the average sender of a sixpenny telegram expected the use of a private line and a 766 h.p. telegraph-boy. The alleged Christmas chaos was merely a Press "stunt."

The accused was found "Guilty," with a recommendation to mercy on the ground of his Ministerial youth.

• • •

"We hear much about the Law's delays," remarked Mr. Justice Bull, "but the law seems to compare with the postal department as would a Rolls Royce with a one-legged tortoise. Although the accused might now be described as a 'man of letters,' before taking office he made his mark as a business man, and it will be amazing if he suffers the present state of affairs to continue. Some time ago a committee of business men was appointed to report on post office management, but its advice is disregarded by the barnacles of the G.P.O.

"The prisoner has too recently taken office to be held responsible for this long-standing muddle, so the sentence of seven days' solitary consignment in a springless mail-van, which I must impose, will be suspended for six months."

Saints and Sinners.

THE MAN FOR THE KANGAROO

Why Gilligan is an Ideal Cricket Captain

by HESKETH PEARSON

THE expression, "It isn't cricket" has gone into the language, and people seldom stop to think why it originated. Why do we never say, "It isn't football"? Obviously because there's a little too much mud about the latter game—of the unsporting as well as the adhesive variety. Cricket stands for sport at its best. It is a game for gentlemen—in the true sense of that much-misapplied word.

Of course there are football gentlemen and cricket cads, but on the whole—well, enough said! At any rate, A. E. R. Gilligan, the captain of the English team in Australia, is a gentleman of the finest type. A well-known Sussex cricketer described him to be as "a man who has nothing of the martinet about him."

THAT is perfectly true. He is the kind of fellow people do things for cheerfully. They even anticipate his wishes and get worried over the thought that what they have done might have been done better.

This is why he makes such an ideal skipper. If he has anything to complain of, he doesn't complain. He merely makes a suggestion, and that disarming smile of his does the rest. Above all, there isn't an atom of "side" about him. The fact that in a very short space of time he brought Sussex back to the front rank of cricket counties and was elected captain of an all-England team while still a comparative junior leaves him with no feeling other than one of responsibility.

HE is far more concerned with what he does and how he does it than with the reputation he might make out of it. He has no mannerisms, no parlour-tricks, no peculiarities. He is, quite simply, a clean, straight sportsman, who has a far keener appreciation of the ability of others than of his own. His chief characteristic is that he has no outstanding characteristic.

A. E. R. Gilligan.

He isn't funny. He isn't particularly serious. Not even the caricaturists can find anything to lay stress upon but his teeth. There are no bumps or sharp edges or angularities either in his nature or on his body.

Essentially he is dependable. He will always say or do something exactly appropriate to the situation that arises. This also makes him a first-rate captain. For in cricket, as in warfare, it is the obvious that is least expected.

HIS enthusiasm is infectious, and not the least charming thing about him is the warmth and generosity of his praise. At a dinner a few months ago someone mentioned W. G. Grace and called him the Grand Old Man. At which Gilligan exclaimed:

"He was the Napoleon of cricket. People always talk of him as the Grand Old Man. They forget that he was also the Grand Young Man—and the Grand Middle-Aged one too!"

CARTOONETTES and Topical Jingles

by FRANK HOLLAND

Our Christmas laze we count by days,
Then back to work we hurry.
But our M.P.s can take their ease
Till the tenth of February.

"It isn't we," exclaim these three,
"Who keep the loaf so high;
And we, by gosh! like Georgie Wash,
Could *never* tell a lie!"

Of Labour men not one in ten
Is what we call a "hot-head,"
The Bolshie crew are very few—
The major part are *not* Red.

So Baldwin deems his Preference a
Don't break his Free Food pledge
Maybe, but still, we fear they will
When he drives home the wedge

HEROES LEFT TO DRIFT

THE writer of the following article has done more than any other person to humanise the administration of pensions to ex-Service men. He speaks from first-hand experience of the work at the Ministry of Pensions

by the Rt. Hon. **F. O. ROBERTS, M.P.**
(Late Minister of Pensions)

WHEN the Pensions question is considered, either from the condition of things as we find them to-day, or from the standpoint of what may be deemed essential for the future, it is wise and proper to keep well in mind the fact that the "family circle" under the care of the Ministry numbers some two and a quarter millions, and the sum disbursed last year in meeting the claims was in the region of seventy million pounds.

It is imagined by many people that there are no new claims now being accepted.

That is not correct. At the end of March, 1924, about 1,200 new claims for pensions were being made each week, of which some two hundred and fifty were then being granted.

The present applications figure, I understand, is somewhat less—probably about nine hundred—the percentage of successful claims doubtless being in close relation to that given above.

Individual Hardship

Of the vast number of claims, I believe it is correct to state that some per cent. are well met by the existing laws or regulations. The major difficulties seem to arise with the remaining cases; it is here that the individual cases of undoubted hardship are to be found.

Unfortunately while these touch chords of deepest sympathy, they are invariably difficult of adjustment.

Frequently there have been brought to notice cases where it has been rightly contended that a just claim has not been recognised by the Pensions authorities.

Yet the record of action subsequently taken, and the rectification made, demonstrates that the existing machinery is to a degree effective in a good percentage of the cases of the "difficult" type about which legitimate complaint was made.

Experience has shown that there has not been constructed that fully adequate machinery which will ensure that no just claim will be denied. The number of cases presented to and by members of Parliament and others emphasises this.

Final Awards

In two directions a trial is being given to proposals introduced for the purpose of redressing acknowledged grievances.

The first deals with cases which come under the Final Awards regulations, and the other with the reconsideration of cases which had been declared closed.

In the latter connection "an extension of previous arrangements has been made by which all cases in which additional evidence is furnished shall be fully considered and a suitable grant made if the disability or death is now found in the light of all the evidence available to be due to service in the late war."

Knowing from my own personal, as distinct from my official, experience something of the mischievous effects arising from Final Awards—which has from the commencement been a fruitful field of complaint—I sought to find a remedy.

Under the scheme sanctioned by the Treasury, cases of final award can be reopened where it is evident there has been a serious error in making the award.

It may be that neither the "correction of errors" method nor the reopening of other cases will be found sufficient to meet the needs of the times. In fact, I believe that something further will have to be done.

But further experience should be gained of the existing arrangements before a judgment is come to.

Many strong complaints are made that a man cannot possibly live on the low pension which is being paid to him, while at the same time he is unable to secure employment.

Find the Men Work

There are undoubtedly some cases where the man has been assessed on too low a scale; the disability is frequently of such a nature as to prevent a return to the pre-war occupation. Naturally, so long as a man is in this position he complains. From this type of case there must spring considerable trouble.

There is a margin of cases which are not being dealt with, and the individuals affected have, as the labour market is to-day, no hope of finding regular employment.

What is to be done? Find the men work and the low pension would cease to worry them. To relieve the anxiety of mind is as vital — nay, more so — than ministering to bodily needs. Temporarily or otherwise, the Government should extend its employment centres. Then when trade is more normal these men would be ready to take their stand in the open labour market.

The Rt. Hon. F. O. Roberts, M.P.

Left to drift, as many of them are to-day, they can only become to a greater extent unfitted to face life's duties and responsibilities. Perhaps a co-ordinated scheme between the Ministries of Pensions and of Labour would be of some service.

The provision of pensions for ex-Service men will go on for a good number of years. Necessary changes will doubtless be made.

The Pensions Department must be scientifically controlled, and yet must sweeten the working of its activities with the kindliest of human sympathy and understanding.

Making Two Ends Meet

WE must increase the area of cultivated land in Britain, and attack the trusts and combines

by the Rt. Hon. **WILLIAM GRAHAM, M.P.**
(Late Financial Secretary to the Treasury)

EN million people in this country are engaged in a terrific battle to make two meet. On the one hand is the that the cost of living is eighty- points higher than it was in even when only the bare ssaries of life—food, clothing and er—are considered. On the r hand, these ten million people sacrificed over £800,000,000 ar in wage reductions during the four years.

e problem they have to face is to pay out more when they ve less.

eady the evidence before the l Commission on food prices s it clear that between the al grower and the final con- r there is a whole network of emen who speculate in the almost before they are grown; peculate in them in transport; handle and rehandle them to the retail trade; and play all sorts of tricks with in the retail market. All their profit. In the last resort nsumer holds the baby.

Millions of people depend for their food on the catering companies. Notwithstanding industrial depression these companies are doing well. The largest of them in London had in 1923-24 net profits, after the payment of debenture interest, of £665,377: There was another which did nearly £150,000. And a third which had over £100,000. Most of the dividends were high.

The Rt. Hon. William Graham, M.P.

No doubt they have reduced prices, but they have not, in common justice to the people, reduced them enough. Again, there are distributive retailers who, even in the midst of much unemployment, are doing very well. Large retail stores have recently shown very handsome profits, even after substantial provision for taxation and other burdens. The restriction of supplies is the chance of the manipulator. He can often do a bigger profit on the smaller turnover. For even with the growth of the combine and the trust the people are protected to some extent by ample supplies.

Some people say that high wages are the cause of high food prices. They forget that price changes move upward first; wages and salaries toil after them. And as I have stated, ten million British people have sacrificed at least £800,000,000 a year in wage reductions since the depression began. And still the cost of living remains high.

The lines of remedy are quite clear. We must increase the area of cultivated land in Great Britain. At present we import far too much of our foodstuffs from abroad. We must also attack the combines and the trusts who manipulate stocks and prices.

Some of the large catering companies must be forced to take less in profits. And the currency problem at home, with its bearing on internal prices, must be tackled. The sooner we can reduce our great debt the better for food prices. The route between the producer and consumer should be shortened and so eliminate heavy costs of food distribution.

Again, our farmers and fruit and vegetable growers have really little knowledge of the working of the distributive system. They tend to be isolated on their farms.

Very soon there must be a movement for wholesale marketing. The present British Government has tumbled to that fact. For it is true that "whilst every branch of industry and commerce has been organising on a wholesale scale, the British producer has, in the main, been content to pursue the methods which prevailed before this country became the principal market for the agricultural produce of the world."

The root of the problem of present-day cost of living will be found in the fact that, while we make economic progress in certain directions, we are stagnant in such essential matters as the production and distribution of the foodstuffs of the people.

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages of Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Rt. Hon. WINSTON CHURCHILL, M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer.

SIR,—If you are looking for new sources of revenue, I would advise you to cast your eye on the novelists who live abroad solely to escape income-tax. And while you are about it, you might consider if there are not ways and means of tapping at the source the considerable royalties earned by foreign dramatists, film playwrights, and so forth, whose works play to big money in this country. Certainly with regard to the novelists, you have a good case, for, while they live abroad, the country towards whose revenue they contribute nothing looks after their property as though they were here.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., Foreign Secretary.

SIR,—That the immediate result of your Rome visit is the attempted formation of a new Balkan League under British patronage disturbs me greatly. Our past meddling in the Balkan game has never produced anything but expensive disaster, and I dislike intensely what appears to me to be your deliberate attempt to form an alliance among those unstable States. I trust that when Parliament meets you will be invited to explain your part in this matter with some urgency.

JOHN BULL.

To ARTHUR GEORGE JONES, Lorne Terrace, Ladywood, Birmingham.

SIR,—No one can read the report of the coroner's enquiry into the death of Annie Beresford, a girl of twenty-one, without gathering a whole-hearted contempt for you. Concealing the fact that you were already a married man, you gained this poor child's affection, so that when she discovered the truth she took poison and died. For such heartless cruelty as yours the law provides no punishment, but if you possess the remnants of a conscience you must be having a hell of a time.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., Minister of Health.

SIR,—I have no doubt that you are as disturbed over the Clydebank eviction impasse as I am. Such a state of affairs cannot continue indefinitely without very serious trouble ensuing. The least you can do is to set up an impartial committee to investigate the whole affair, for it has assumed an importance that lifts it from a local squabble into a matter of national concern. Moreover, I hope you will move quickly. It will not be long before Clydebank has imitators, unless something is done.

JOHN BULL.

To Dame ELLEN TERRY, 34, Burleigh Mansions, W.C.2.

DEAR MADAM,—I hasten to add my congratulations to the innumerable expressions of good will you have already received. It is indeed time that a Government has been found to honour one who has added such imperishable lustre to the British stage. Honours are apt to be empty things, but in your case, apart from being well deserved, it comes with the love of a nation. And that makes all the difference.

JOHN BULL.

To Major ISIDORE SALMON, M.P., Managing Director, J. Lyons & Co., Ltd.

SIR,—There is only one thing smarter than the newly clad appearance of the Lyons' waitresses, and that is the smart way in which the firm of Lyons gets the credit for what the girls themselves have to pay 29s., although they have only just paid for the old type of dress which Lyons & Co. have now decreed to be obsolete. I have repeatedly rapped the firm over the knuckles for its treatment of its staff, but words fail to express the contempt that the public is feeling for a commercial caucus that can even extract publicity from its deductions from girls' wages.

JOHN BULL.

To his worship THE MAYOR, Bournemouth.

DEAR MR. MAYOR,—Not for the first time serious complaint is made of the absence of proper traffic regulation in your borough. I gather that the seaside visitor has a better chance of being short-circuited to Kingdom Come in the streets of Bournemouth than in any other watering-place in the British Isles. This appears to be among the attractions of the "Evergreen Valley" not mentioned in the guide-books. Please have things altered before I pay my next visit.

JOHN BULL.

To J. A. WILSON, Esq. Chief Constable, Cardiff.

SIR,—I am pleased to see that you are taking steps to prevent any undesirable Orientals smuggling themselves into this country. When thirteen Chinese seamen arrived at Cardiff recently without passports you promptly took them into custody and detained them until their ship was ready to sail again. So many sinister figures connected with the drug traffic and other abominations have slipped through the hands of the authorities in the guise of sailors that your action merits the fullest approval.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir WM. MITCHELL-THOMSON, M.P., Postmaster-General.

DEAR SIR,—Who was the incompetent who decided that Christmas was a suitable time to institute a new and untried system of sorting? Who was responsible for the failure to appoint an adequate number of temporary sorters? Who was responsible for the failure to secure increased temporary accommodation for the huge increase of business that was well known to be coming? Your department is supposed to be a business department. Need I say more?

JOHN BULL.

To EDWARD BROWN, North Baileygate, Pontefract.

SIR,—There are some cases in which the prosecutor earns as much shame as the men he is instrumental in sending to prison. Albert Marie and George Muller, who were sentenced to six months' hard labour for obtaining £10 from you by a trick, were thorough-going rogues, but you who parted with the money in the belief that you were betting on a billiard match, the result of which was already known, are even more contemptible, for when you discovered that you had been defrauded you started to whine.

JOHN BULL.

The Modern Atlas

CHORUS OF DEBTORS: "Ain't he a nice strong man!"

Straight from the Shoulder

NEIL MACLEAN:—We are designated "the wild ... we have a right to be wild.

No public representative has a right to be irresp... Righteous anger is not the same as loud-mouthed pi...

* * *

M. HERRIOT:—Since the end of the war Franc... been working unceasingly to heal her wounds.

And now it is time she recollected that other ... wounds still unhealed.

* * *

GEN. BLAKENEY:—British Fascists regard M... as the greatest man this century has brought ... public life.

Then why not emigrate en masse and enrol under ... idol's banner?

* * *

LLOYD GEORGE:—When you are asking for a ch... it is the past that matters.

We trust we shall be forgiven if we whisper "Lincoln" ... in your ear!

* * *

LADY ASTOR:—Drink has done more to keep ... and women in the slums than any other factor ... world.

If you lived in hell you would drink. You ... cause and effect.

Without Fear or Favour

ON TO THE MILLION!

An Outrageous Plan

THERE may be room for argument as to the desirability of the increased employment of women police in London and the provinces, but there can be no two opinions about the proposal to employ women in the dirty work of the Metropolitan Police Force. The Home Office proposal to send women police as spies into the worst London night clubs is nothing short of an outrage, and we are surprised that Sir William Joynson-Hicks should have lent it a moment's countenance.

That the authorities should invite women of education and refinement to volunteer for this degrading work merely serves to show that they have no idea of the real wickedness that goes on in these underground haunts.

If they had accurately gauged the evil they are clumsily endeavouring to combat, they would know that no decent woman could expose herself to the patronage and "friendship" of the regular habitués of these "clubs."

A more intolerable proposal we have never heard, and what useful purpose is to be served? None that we can see. If the authorities really want to catch out the proprietors of these dens, they can do so quite easily without exposing decent women to unspeakable degradation.

And so with the drug-traffic. Here, again, we see grave objection to the employment of women as spies. If women are to be successful in this work they must pretend to be addicted to the use of drugs, and all too easily the pretence may be converted into tragic reality. Only persons of exceptional moral control can taste drugs and escape a life-long slavery to the vice.

It is not too late for the Home Secretary to reverse his policy.

Useless Law

WE have no love for Mr. Pussyfoot. But if the efforts of the Prohibitionist are to be foiled, law-abiding citizens must insist upon honest administration of the present licensing laws.

The bogus club is a scandal and a nuisance. It is an offence to the genuine club member, and an insult to the honest publican. There must be something radically wrong with a system which permits a woman like Mrs. Merrick to reopen her so-called "club" under another name the day after it has been struck off the register.

The law provides that superfluous public-house licences shall be cancelled. Yet nothing is easier than for the closed "pub" to make its reappearance as a club, and the law apparently has nothing to say to this egregious farce.

This will be a "John Bull" Year!

WE are within sight of selling a million copies of "JOHN BULL" every week—a circulation built up on our policy of political independence and our efforts to give the people Justice and Truth.

NOT the most hostile critic of JOHN BULL can suggest that this journal has ever been the slave of any clique or Party. Like John Galsworthy's "Old English," we have been stubbornly proud of our independence, and from year to year we have been furnished with proofs that it is this quality above all others which has given us a special place in the affections of our readers.

It would be ingratitude as well as affectation to pretend that we are not gratified at being able to record for the week ending Dec. 27, 1924, a bona-fide net sale of 903,693 copies. Since we laid down our policy of Justice and Truth for the People, the circulation of JOHN BULL has shown a steady rise.

This constant upward trend—without spasmodic jumps or depressions—is a sure sign of health. It shows that JOHN BULL is gaining in power and prestige, and that the policy expressed in these columns is one that commands the assent of an ever-increasing number of our fellow-citizens.

One of the goals we have set before us in 1925 is to reach the million mark! At the present rate of progress it will not be long before that aim is achieved. We are already 100,000 "up" on the figures for the last week of 1923, and only another 100,000 separates us from the million circulation we hope to publish this time next year. That we shall succeed we have no doubt. A truly independent journal is among the cardinal needs of our time.

OUR readers who have been so loyal to us in the past can do their bit to help us reach the million even sooner. There are still a few people who do not know of the marvellous transformation in JOHN BULL. Our present readers can help us by talking about the paper, showing it to their friends, and pointing out what a wonderful twopennyworth it is.

We shall do our part by keeping the independent flag flying. As our trust is in the People, so our aim is to serve their cause.

The Directors, Odhams Press Ltd.

Dear Sirs,—We have examined the Company's accounts and records relating to the undermentioned issues of JOHN BULL, and certify that the net sales (exclusive of all free copies), after deducting returns received during the week of each issue, were as set out below:

Year 1924

Jan.	5	815,131	May	10	808,563	Sept.	6	848,269
"	12	803,179	"	17	810,290	"	13	841,034
"	19	804,580	"	24	811,362	"	20	862,617
"	26	791,371	"	31	811,655	"	27	865,161
Feb.	2	809,967	June	7	838,251	Oct.	4	852,719
"	9	805,470	"	14	829,196	"	11	853,180
"	16	806,760	"	21	832,392	"	18	869,045
"	23	809,546	"	28	834,414	"	25	879,118
Mar.	1	807,965	July	5	814,728	Nov.	1	874,232
"	8	822,885	"	12	816,542	"	8	898,671
"	15	816,290	"	19	814,967	"	15	887,007
"	22	816,703	"	26	835,088	"	22	880,351
"	29	824,884	Aug.	2	829,639	"	29	886,080
April	5	806,232	"	9	834,761	Dec.	6	891,686
"	12	808,744	"	16	841,602	"	13	887,461
"	19	843,168	"	23	850,464	"	20	896,738
"	26	839,685	"	30	846,544	"	27	903,693
May	3	827,883						

(Signed) FRANKLIN WILD & CO.,
PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO., Chartered Accountants.
London, 2nd January, 1925.

Railway Fares

WE are able to reveal one of the secrets of the conference room where representatives of the railwaymen and the companies have been meeting. It is that the companies have made up their minds that no concessions are to be made to railway users in the shape of lower fares or freights.

This is nothing short of a scandal, and we hope that the Government will lose no time in bringing the companies to a sense of their responsibility in the matter. Revision of rail rates is long overdue, and nothing could have better effect in aiding industrial recovery and lightening the burden of existence for the general public than a move towards the old fares and freights. It is said that the companies cannot make the concession because it would involve them in heavy losses of revenue. We refuse to credit that.

We suggest that the public should stir them up by demanding justice through the ordinary political channels until the Government acts.

Labour's Lesson

AT the rate of one million members a year the British Trade Union movement is bleeding to death. This is the only inference to be drawn from the latest official figures. In 1920 the total membership of all registered unions was more than eight millions. For 1923 the figure is very little in excess of five millions, and even the friends of trade unionism are afraid that the 1924 returns will show a drop to four millions.

We have never been hostile to the trade union movement. Whilst deploring its occasional excesses, we have always recognised the need for its existence as a safeguard between the underpaid workman and the bad type of employer. The trade union movement has a necessary social function to discharge. What, then, are the reasons for its decay?

In part, no doubt, it is due to bad times making it difficult or impossible for the workers to keep up their contributions; but this can account only for a fraction of the shrinkage. Our enquiries suggest that the chief cause is to be found in the growing feeling among the men that their leaders are no longer concerned with the proper functions of the unions, but are using them only to further political aims.

More than this, the British workingman resents the Prussian discipline of the modern trade union movement which often drags him into a strike which sensible negotiation might have averted. The trade unions are losing members because their methods no longer command the unquestioning allegiance of the men and women.

A Queer Newspaper

A NEWSPAPER or a theatre which trifles with such a great matter as married fidelity, even if its purpose is merely to amuse, is striking at the very heart of religion. Sin has no greater ally than our fashionable spirit of flippancy.

by

"A GENTLEMAN WITH A DUSTER"

Bishop Gore.

IN a newspaper which makes a particular point of appealing to people who love their homes, and which therefore should have some elementary knowledge of the only foundation on which domestic life can be maintained, I come across a paragraph headed "Innocent Wickedness."

This paragraph turns out to be a review of a recent novel, which the newspaper calls an "amusing, light-hearted, epicurean comedy." It is described in the following words:

". . . we are treated to the sight of two self-denying Maidenhead husbands sending off their wives to enjoy the delights of gambling and flirting at Monte Carlo. Quickly bored, of course, the men soon follow, and after some inevitable misunderstandings, in which they, too, flirt with enchanting young beauties, they recover their wives and come home."

WHETHER such a novel is likely to be popular in domestic circles I do not know, and the matter would not be worth a moment's thought, or a moment's contempt, by any educated person, but for the spirit in which the newspaper recommends the book to its readers. That strikes me as really important. "All dons and schoolmasters who like to taste a little innocent wickedness vicariously," says the newspaper, "ought to be given this book for the New Year. It is always amusing, always in perfect taste."

The newspaper in question is dead against the Russian Bolsheviks. Nothing in the politics of the world makes it so indignant as the war which those wicked Bolsheviks are waging against religion. I do not know how often the proprietors of this newspaper go to church, or what subscription the editor makes to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, but I can vouch for this truth—from what I have read elsewhere in its columns—that no newspaper in the land is more angry with the Bolsheviks for their monstrous atheism than this newspaper.

GOD is evidently a real Being to it, or why should it be so outraged by the Bolsheviks?—and I suppose that Christ, who condemned a salacious look as an act of adultery, is also a Divine Person in its eyes.

But can any man in his senses imagine Bishop Gore or the Dean of St. Paul's talking about "all dons and schoolmasters who like to taste a little innocent wickedness vicariously," or conceive of the Rev. Dr. Horton, General Booth, or Gipsy Smith characterising a book which deals with the flirtations of married people as "in perfect taste"? In other words, would it be possible for any man to whom religion is a spiritual reality (not a mere political convenience) and domestic life a thing of sacred and delicate beauty to write without condemnation of such a book or to recommend it as a New Year's gift?

Here may be seen, I think, the cause of much rottenness in our social life. This newspaper is not to be charged with hypocrisy, but with culpable ignorance, and with the most guilty shallowness. It is on the side of religion, but it fosters in its readers a spirit of flippancy towards great matters which is absolutely fatal to religion. A clumsy fellow shouting at the street corner that religion is dope for the people is not doing any serious harm; but a newspaper or a theatre which trifles with such a great matter as married fidelity, even if its purpose is merely to amuse, is striking at the very heart of religion.

FOR religion is not a steeple, a crucifix, a pew, or a painted window, but virtue living in the hearts of men and women and keeping there the fundamental laws of God.

There is no such thing, as this newspaper ought to know, if it has ever thought about the religion of which it constitutes itself a champion, as "innocent wickedness." All wickedness of every kind is the enemy of human happiness. It is busy from morning to night, and from night to morning, wrecking the homes of men and women, and breaking the hearts of defenceless children. It fills our prisons, our hospitals, and our madhouses. It has a thousand forms, great and little, but in all its shapes and under all its disguises, it is the enemy of mankind.

It is the foulest thing crawling about this earth, and he who smiles upon it and does not set his heel upon its head, is the enemy of God and man. Lower certainly than any adulterer or drunkard is he who can read with pleasure about contemptible things, and likes "to taste a little innocent wickedness vicariously."

Those who go about the world with eyes open see plainly enough that sin has no greater ally at the present time than the fashionable spirit of flippancy. There is no one in our midst bold enough, or crazy enough, which you like, to attack religion with the ardour of the Bolsheviks; but there is an immense army of people in our midst who are for ever tricking out vice in attractive garments and for ever arraying virtue in the raiment of ridiculousness. These people are corrupting British character at its very roots, and sapping the foundations of religion.

Flippancy is not merely a thing which keeps people from going to church and makes them forget to attend meetings of the Primrose League; it is a thing which gives men and women bad hearts, chaotic minds, and feeble souls. It destroys the grandeur of the universe and turns the great epic of evolution into a French farce. For every vigorous sinner in the world there are a hundred grinning and leering fops of folly whose souls are obviously not worth the tail of a sardine to the purposes of the Creator. For every wretched harlot and for every miserable drunkard destroyed by vice, there are a hundred well-dressed fools walking about the earth who are just as useless to God and His universe as the last corpse carried out of the Lock Hospital.

DIRECTLY we disown moral responsibility we are dead and done for. Directly we presume to think that it doesn't matter what we do and what we are making ourselves by our thoughts and actions, we cease to be soldiers of the higher life of the human race, and become dead souls on the battlefield of evolution. Immensely important is it never to commit the mistake of Horace Walpole and regard great things as little, and little things as great.

Snatch away the mask of "innocent wickedness," and you will find the mocking grin of Satanism on the lips of its befooled victim.

A NEW PERI

"No woman should go up and down Regent Street or Piccadilly alone!"

IF your wife or your sweetheart or your sister were arrested in Regent Street, marched under a policeman's custody to a police station, locked up all night in the company of foul-mouthed prostitutes, and charged in open court with accosting and soliciting men, what would you think and feel after her acquittal?

You would think that no conceivable amount of compensation could atone for the shameful outrage on the lady's honour and your own good name.

You would feel that you were entitled to public apology from the highest authority in the land.

You would think that the Prime Minister himself ought to rise in Parliament and proclaim to the whole nation that the lady had been the victim of this amazing and damnable mistake.

Instead of which, a lady subjected to this appalling insult is discharged by the magistrate at Marlborough Street Police Court with the remark: "After hearing the evidence in this case, I believe the defendant. She will be discharged." No apology is offered to her. No compensation is offered to the husband of the lady, a business man whose standing must have been gravely prejudiced by the public reports of the case. Not a word of rebuke is administered to the constables who brought the charge!

Yet the policeman must or should have known that the lady was not a prostitute. The most unfledged yokel may distinguish the tribe at a glance: the rouged lips and painted face, the mechanical simper, the knowing leer of the "professional"—speak as plainly as the boldest aggression and most shameless of words. A policeman in the Regent Street, Piccadilly, Leicester Square district could not possibly make a mistake. If a magistrate, after hearing the evidence in such a case, deliberately decides that the charge is baseless, what does he imply?

There have been many cases of this sort in the West End of late. A few months ago, two unquestionably clean-living ladies were arrested on a similar charge. Their pitiful distress in the dock of shame sufficiently attested their innocence.

Other evidence confirmed it. They were acquitted.

This paper took up and exposed another such charge against a girl of eighteen, who, being late in an appointment with a friend, walked up and down the street in the mistaken hope that he, too, might have been delayed or might return.

My Dear Mr. Churchill

IN this Open Letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, A. G. G. reviews the enormous financial burdens which Britain is bearing, and points unerringly to the principal sources of our national extravagance. We need economy in administering the Services.

by A. G. GARDINER

Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill.

IF I address you to-day personally, my dear Mr. Churchill, you will not misunderstand my intention. I have in the past been among those who have said hard things about you, and it is possible that in the future I shall say hard things again. But while I have often distrusted your judgment, I have never doubted your genius and still less your courage and energy, and I have always felt that if those qualities could be directed to constructive rather than destructive ends they might give you a place high in the roll of British statesmen.

Now, after many adventures in many fields, you have your chance. You are the driving wheel of the new Government. Money is power, and you control the purse of the nation. It is a position which appeals to you not merely by the greatness of its responsibility but by the sentiment of filial piety which you have in a high degree.

YOU are in a fortunate position in one sense, for in this matter you will have the nation solidly with you. Public extravagance has reached a point that threatens the national existence. The load of taxation that burdens industry and swells the cost of living is one of the chief obstacles to the trade recovery for which we have waited so long and without which this country cannot regain its commercial position in the world.

You are not one of those foolish people who think we can live by taking in one another's washing or by taxing consumption. You know that our commercial greatness has been achieved by our success in the open markets of the world, that that success was due to the cheapness and efficiency of our production, and that with the national expenditure in the region of eight hundred millions sterling a year—an amount equal to the whole National Debt in pre-war days—cheap production cannot be recovered and lost markets cannot be re-won.

For this reason, you hold the key position in the Government. All hopes are centred in you. It is with the desire that you will fulfil those hopes that I address you.

These are the critical weeks of your career. You are engaged in preparing your first Budget, and upon the wisdom of your action now will depend your success or your failure in redeeming us from the desperate position in which the war has left our finances.

I AM not one of those who periodically raise an ignorant clamour against the civil servants who cannot answer. I believe we have the finest Civil Service in the world, and that the most mischievous as well as the most unjust thing is to so excite public feeling against that service. It is a crude absurdity to suppose that Government departments are extravagant for the sake of extravagance.

This does not mean that there is not waste. A vast official machine like the Civil Service inevitably develops all sorts of elaborate procedures, checks and counter-checks, minutes and more minutes, secretaries and secretaries' secretaries. This tendency wants persistent weeding out, but my point here, as you, Mr. Churchill, will understand, is that the severest economies in Whitehall will be only a drop in the bucket of your necessities. It is not the Civil Service staff that swallows up the millions; it is the national services. It is here, if anywhere, that the real economies must be made.

Now certain of these services are obviously beyond your axe. You cannot cut down the interest on the National Debt. You cannot abolish War Pensions. You cannot stop Old Age Pensions, or even diminish them; on the other hand, we all agree that widows' pensions should be added to them. You cannot discontinue the subsidy to housing. The greatest need of the country is a million more houses, and there is no way of providing them except by assistance from the Exchequer.

You cannot save on insurance. Next to housing, the most urgent necessity is to strengthen the defences against unemployment, ill-health and all the other vicissitudes of life which overshadow the poor and which, if neglected, breed Bolshevism. You cannot save on education, for the worst form of economy is to starve the mind of the nation, which is the most valuable property we possess.

WHAT remains? There are the three great spending departments of the Army, the Navy and the Air Service. The end of the "war to end war" has left us with the expenditure on armaments doubled. The German Navy is at the bottom of the North Sea, but we are building battleships compared with which the Dreadnought was little more than a cockboat. Against whom? At an Air Service camp in my neighbourhood in the country barracks are being built at the cost of a million of money. The first act of your Government has been to revive the Singapore naval scheme, which will cost us in the end tens of millions. It is in this field of gigantic expenditure that you must win your victory if it is to be won.

There are two main methods. No one wants or expects you to fight for economies that will imperil your country. But expenditure on armaments is dictated by policy. If you want to reduce the national burden which is choking industry you must stand for a policy of peace and disarmament in Europe.

THE second method is by economies in administration. Here waste is enormous. The aim of the Army, Navy and Air boards is to get the maximum of money for their departments. The whole history of your great office has always turned upon the struggle of the Treasury against the voracious demands of the generals and admirals. The method of estimating ahead puts a premium upon extravagant demands.

The remedy is in tightening the administration, in the economic reorganisation of the regimental system, and in changing by drastic lessons the whole frame of mind of the Services in regard to the expenditure of the taxpayers' money.

It is on the courage and resolution with which you attack the triple-headed monster of military expenditure that your reputation as a great finance minister will depend. In that way and no other will you ease our burden, cheapen production and restore our trade.

TO WOMEN

by ALEX. M. THOMPSON ("Dangle")

as suddenly pounced on by the police and taken hrough the crowded streets to the police station. Here she wept, and begged that her mother ight be sent for.

She was thrust into the company of degraded, unsexed, desperate women, moral lepers who shrieked their shame as a distinction. The matron asked questions about her supposed "profession" that taught the girl more of vice than she had ever guessed.

trate Street

She was bailed out at two o'clock in the morning.

Next day the police swore that they had had her under observation for weeks, and that they had seen her accost seven men on the evening of her arrest. She was discharged, and commissioners of JOHN BULL who thoroughly investigated the case found that the family were irreproachably respectable.

But since that terrible experience they have en subjected to constant gibes and taunts, to ighbours' sneers and suspicion.

Things have come to such a pass that counsel the last case was moved to say that "No man ought to walk in Hyde Park after dark, nd no woman should go up and down Regent Street or Piccadilly alone," because "she is always likely to be arrested."

What is the explanation? There are times in the evening when, if the police threw a net along the sidewalk of Piccadilly, nearly every woman caught in its meshes could be proved a professional prostitute. How is it that the regular habitues, ostentatiously impudent as they are, are allowed to ply their trade unhindered and unquestioned, whilst so remarkable a proportion of doubtful cases, and of cases proved to be innocent, are captured?

Some years ago London and the whole country was stirred by the notorious case of Miss Cass—a case very similar to that of Mrs. Mabel Footring. The national anger provoked by that instance of constabulary zeal flung a Home Secretary out of office and caused a searching enquiry. This enquiry suggested the existence of a general agreement between the police and the habitual prostitutes, and a tendency on the part of the former to make up for their failure to act in the case of their regular customers by fierce concentration of zeal against casual strangers.

Might not a similar enquiry be useful to-day?

Is it "Too Late" for YOU?

"Too Late!" Small words—simple words—tragic words.

Words that tell the story of delay and procrastination.

Two words that are reflected in the shrivelled pay envelopes of thousands of men.

"Too Late!"

Will it be said that you wasted your youth and squandered the natural ability which is born in every man?

Will it be said that you missed your Opportunity because you kept putting it off—and off—and off——

Some who read this message to-day will heed the warning of the past and start upwards before Opportunity pays its farewell call.

Others will struggle along at the same old insufficient salary, until for them, too, it is—"Too Late!"

What are you going to do—send in at once the Success Coupon printed below, or wait five years and then wish you had?

Think it over. Then act—TO-DAY.

.....USE THIS COUPON.....

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS, LTD.
125, International Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

Please send me your booklet containing full particulars of the course of Correspondence Training before which I have marked X. I assume no obligation.

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Musterole relaxes stiff joints and drives out pain. A clean, white ointment made with oil of mustard, it usually brings instant relief.

It does all the good work of the old-fashioned mustard plaster, without the blister. Doctors and nurses often recommend its use.

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A LIVING DEATH

JUSTICE for fallen women! It seems like mocking society to ask for that. Yet, as the writer points out, they have never had justice.

by ALISON NEILANS

"I AM just one of the 'outcasts,' and I never thought good women knew or cared what we suffer under man-made laws. I am sure my life must seem very empty to you—and so it is. . . . I would love to give it up altogether and try to earn my living, but without some experience of trade I am lost."

Miss Alison Neilans, Secretary of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.

This is an extract from a letter written to me by a woman of the street, which came after a lecture I had given on the cruelty and injustice of the special laws directed against these unhappy "daughters of joy."

She talked to me about the frightful loneliness and spiritual isolation of herself and all her class.

She was thirty-five, had been decently educated, married, had a son, and then lost her husband. Used to comfort and the companionship of a man, she drifted into a relationship with one who could not, or would not, marry her. He left her and she lived with another, and so, slipping down an ever steeper slope, she came to "walking the streets."

There was her boy to keep safely in the country at school, and there were thousands of good women out of work. What could she, with no business experience, no character, and several police convictions, do to earn a living? She did not blame anyone else: "It was my own fault."

But was it? What about the cruel laws which fasten the legal title of "common prostitute" to six thousand women every year and thereby, at one stroke, put them into a class apart, however much they try to reform?

WHAT of the double standard of morals which allows a man to sow his "wild oats" and to enter again into decent society, but which thrusts the partner of his irresponsibility into the deepest social obloquy?

"Without male chastity female chastity is impossible." What of the economic pressure which houses our people worse than beasts?

What of unemployment? What of the men who will pay women starvation wages during the day for honest work, but will give other women pounds at night for prostituting themselves with them?

Some of these things can only be changed by a long process of education, for their roots lie deep in social and economic fallacies, in centuries of false and muddle-headed public opinion; but one item we can tackle at once.

Let us abolish the special laws against "prostitutes." They are useless in promoting public order and decency, they are unjust because they attack only one class of offenders. They are immoral because they are based on the double standard, and, in effect, they deny to such women the possibility of social redemption.

Why should a woman, because she is alleged to be immoral, be denied the right of every prisoner—be he a brutal murderer or felon—to be tried in an unprejudiced Court? Even Mahon, the "'bungalow" murderer, was not denied that right. Questions of character and previous convictions may not be raised *until a person is found guilty of the particular offence with which he is then charged.*

But when these unfortunate women stand in the dock charged with soliciting the first words the constable utters are, "I know this woman to be a common prostitute." In that one sentence he has given her character and previous convictions, and she has practically no chance of an unprejudiced trial.

Condemned for what she *is* instead of for what she *does*; condemned without any evidence whatsoever that she has, in fact, annoyed anybody, she is fined or goes to prison—the scapegoat of society.

But how does she pay her fine, or pay her back rent while in prison? "I have only one source of income," said such a woman to me once. "I have to hustle round to make it up."

PERHAPS no class of people has been so much abused and hated, or, alternatively, sentimentalised over as "prostitutes" have been. Good people have spent thousands of pounds in efforts to reform them, essayists and orators have made them the subject of some of their most striking rhetoric. But one thing these women have never had yet, either from men or women, and that is simple legal justice.

Ought we not to secure legal justice for the "common prostitute" before we set out to reform her?

These women are slaves and outcasts, despised and rejected by all respectable people. Yet they are suffering human beings, and many are very unhappy. They are used not as though they were women, but as though they were "things."

To the Rescue

"John Bull" proves itself a Friend in Need.

WITH the advent of the New Year the daily papers are busy "revising" their Insurance Schemes.

JOHN BULL sees no reason whatever for "revising" the Free Insurance Gift that it presented to its readers in the past, and offers to them again in 1925.

Its benefits remain the same. There is no reduction. There is no alteration.

The scheme has proved in its working to be the most practical of any before the public, of substantial benefit to our registered readers, and productive of nothing but satisfaction and goodwill on both sides.

Therefore our Free Insurance Gift for 1925 is presented to our readers without the alteration of so much as a comma.

The unprecedented floods that have marked the close of the year find JOHN BULL in a unique position.

We are the only paper in the country that offers benefits for damage by storm and flood.

Already, from all parts of the country, letters are pouring in telling of the havoc wrought by the recent storms.

Our registered readers by the hundred are having good cause to congratulate themselves on the foresight they displayed when they took advantage of our Insurance Gift.

Nothing could prove its value more than these benefits that are now being paid.

We wish to remind our readers that to secure such benefits as we offer would cost them at least 25s. per annum if they were obtained through an ordinary insurance company. We offer them FREE.

Further, we would stress once more the fact that we deal, for all applications for benefit, direct with our readers, and not through the medium of a soulless Insurance Corporation.

We take considerable pride in the maintenance of this personal relationship. Every application receives prompt and sympathetic consideration.

The following letter from Mr. Albert Davies, Toll Bar House, Walsingham, Norfolk, dated 23.12.24, is typical of hundreds on our files, and expresses the spirit in which we conduct our scheme:—

"I am in receipt of your letter and cheque, for which I thank you. I quite understand that you were under no obligation with regard to payment, and I appreciate it all the more . . . . ."

Any reader who has not already done so can avail himself of the benefits of our Free Insurance Gift by signing the coupons on page 2.

Remember—We are the only paper giving benefits for damage by storm and flood, and they are only two of the many benefits we give.

There is no time like the present for taking thought for the future.

Sign and post the coupons NOW!

LAST WORD IN CROSS-WORDS!

£100 in Prizes and 1,000 Other Awards

An Entirely Novel Form of this Fascinating Pastime

First Prize £50 Second Prize £25
Third Prize £10 Fourth Prize £5
20 of 10/- each; 1,000 Other Awards

WHAT is the topic of the moment in the homes of millions on both sides of Atlantic? What is the subject it is on the tip of countless tongues, ping a few feminine ones quiet, even bringing men straight he from their offices?
Cross-Word Puzzles!
Britain has just caught the epihic which has raged in America many months past. If you have d filling in the tantalising little ares yourself, you will underd it. If you haven't yet conted the fever, you will underd its fascination as soon as start.
ut it is not just an ordinary Crossrd Competition which we are introing to you this week. It is uzzlets," the best of all Crossrd Competitions, because it offers biggest prizes, and is a *real* of ingenuity. By setting comtors a simple task *in addition to ing the Cross-Word Puzzle*, we e eliminated the element of nce in awarding our prizes, which to be won by skill and skill e.

zlets—Record Prizes.

eaders expect the best from JOHN L, and we are proud to be able to before them by far the biggest prize- offered in a free competition of nature.
First Prize of £50, a Second of £25, ird of £10 and a Fourth of £5, are wed by twenty 10s. awards and 1,000 useful gifts—a wonderful range rizes unequalled in any other Cross- l contest. *There is no entry fee.*
u have only a few days in which ompete in our first "Puzzlets" petition, so get to work at once.

ing the Puzzle.

the pattern given the white squares be filled with letters which, reading s and *Downwards*, form the words tters indicated by the Clues pro- .
ord *begins* in each of the numbered squares, and reads *Across* or *Downwards* according to the Clues. Thus in the following Cross-Word Puzzle the word occupying the five spaces reading *Across* from *No.* 5 is seen by the *Across* Clues to be represented by the definition—*No.* 5—"*Woven twisted material.*"
Similarly, the word occupying the six spaces reading *Downwards* from *No.* 5 is seen by the *Downwards* Clues to be represented by the definition—*No.* 5—"*Made of brass.*"
As you progress you will find the words fitting into each other, the letters of one helping you to find another, and so on. When you have completed the Puzzle to your satisfaction, read on and see how to win a big cash prize.

The additional task which we have set competitors to eliminate the element of chance in this contest is as follows:

Having filled in all the letters of the Puzzle, choose *ANY* word contained in it, and construct a phrase, each word of which MUST begin with one of the letters of the chosen word. These letters may be used in any order, but ALL must be used. A letter appearing twice must be used twice, and so on.

The phrase you make is *not* to relate in meaning to the chosen word, but should consist of some pointed observation, which may be serious or humorous, as you desire. The examples following are not constructed from words appearing in the Puzzle, but indicate what kind of a phrase is required.

Chosen Word.	*Phrase.*
MOUSE ..	Mother Of Six Envies Unmarried.
CHINS ..	Newlywed's Cooking Hastens Severe Indigestion.

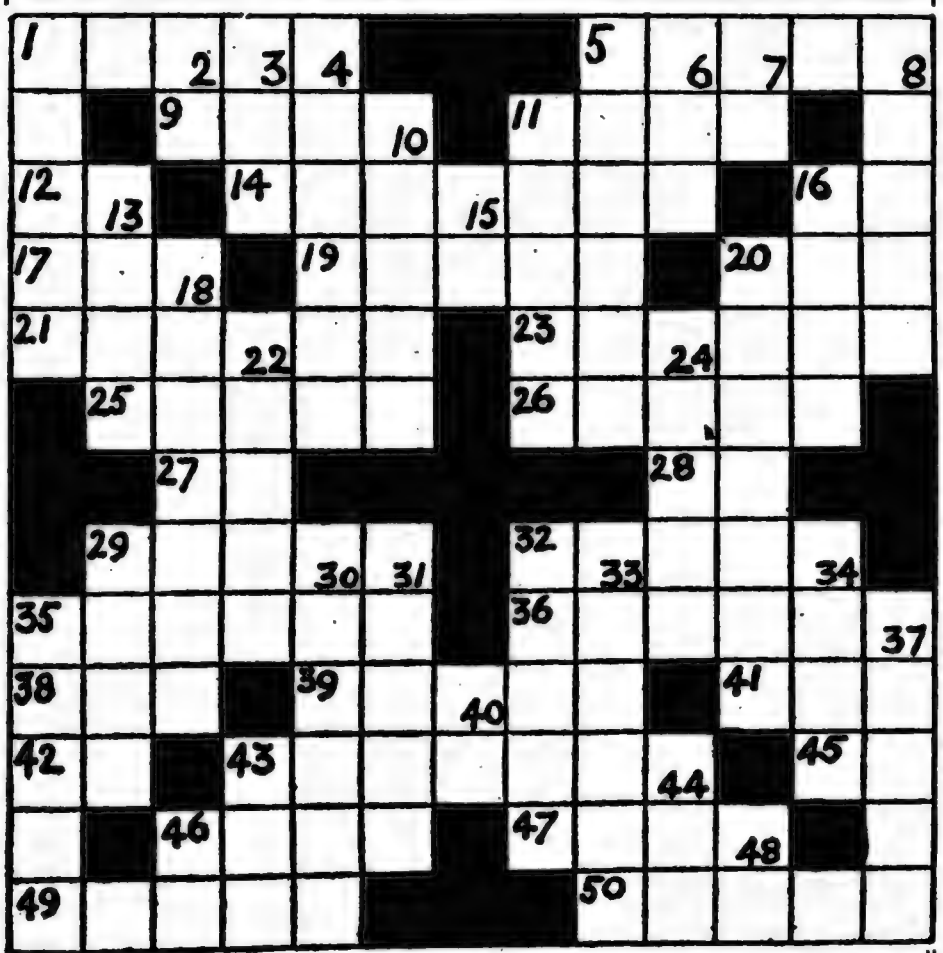
Write your chosen word and phrase plainly in the space provided, cut out the puzzle and coupon without separating them, and post to Puzzlets No. 1, P.O. Box No. 200, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, to reach these offices not later than the closing date, Wednesday, January 14. Entries *MUST NOT* be enclosed with *Bullets* coupons.

A Hint or Two.

This is an easy competition, for the puzzle contains no obscure or obsolete words. If, however, you cannot readily discover any particular word, work on the others immediately adjoining it. This will give you further clues which should enable you rapidly to fill in the blanks.
You may choose any word in the Puzzle to form the initial letters of your phrase, and the best phrase will not necessarily be formed by the longest word. Only the merit of the phrase will be considered, not its length.
Remember that the phrase is *not* expected to bear any relation to the chosen word, and that its initial letters may be in any order you like.
If you find that the letters of the word you have chosen do not readily lend themselves to constructing a phrase, try one of the others. There are sixty in all.
Now go ahead and see if you can get into the first list of "Puzzlet" prize-winners!

onditions of Entry.

The First Prize of £50 will be awarded to the sender of the correct Cross-Word Puzzle solution which is accompanied by what, in the Editor's opinion, is the best phrase received, the test being cleverness and originality, and the other prizes in order of merit.
Your phrase must be plainly written in the space provided on the coupon, which cannot be considered for a prize unless it is accompanied by a correct solution of the Puzzle.
The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.
No responsibility can be accepted for coupons lost, delayed, or mislaid, and no correspondence can be entered into in connection with this competition.
Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible for this competition.



This Coupon MUST NOT be separated from the Puzzle.
Closing Jan. 14, 1925.

Word Chosen.....

Phrase.....

.....

I agree to enter "Puzzlets" No. 1 in accordance with the rules and conditions announced.

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

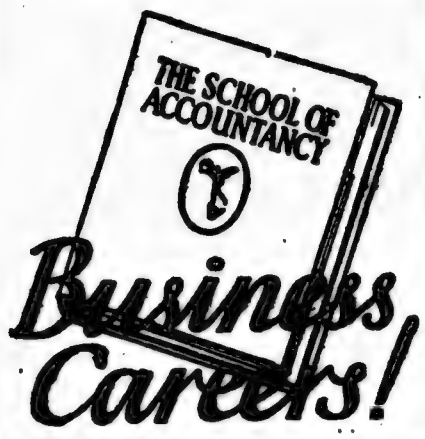
Address entries to "Puzzlets" No. 1, P.O. Box No. 200, John Bull, Long Acre, London, W.C.2

ss Clues.

ne of a fight.
Woven twisted material.
o stop a flow.
art of the ear.
rovided that.
ouch in front of a Scottish kilt.
roceed.
ollows "neither."
pen spaces.
hum.
atty substance.
sed by motorists.
lediterranean naval station.
ut on the light.
big piece of pie!!
onditionally.
ritten slander.
ountry in Southern Europe.
og like.
small rude bed.
e way masts and sails are fitted.
eautiful dress material.
art of the head.
ot out.
sistant clergymen.
en on signposts.
e woman's work with the socks.
hat the Housing Act should destroy.
un away secretly.
ppears.

Downward Clues.

1. David used it against Goliath.
2. Because.
3. Belonging to it.
4. Meal.
5. Made of brass (a variant spelling).
6. Go quickly.
7. Before noon.
8. Funny.
10. Southern Greece.
11. To cover with cloth.
13. What tipsters profess to know.
15. Concerning.
16. Prison.
18. Cutting the corn.
20. Side face.
22. If proved, gets a prisoner off.
24. Experiment.
29. Rested flat.
30. To make certain of.
31. Get knowledge.
32. What an angry cat does.
33. Parts of a door.
34. How Scotsmen like whisky.
35. Evil doing.
37. A horse's movements.
40. Child's "Thank you."
43. Head covering.
44. To make legal claim.
46. Perform.
48. Not you, unless you say it.



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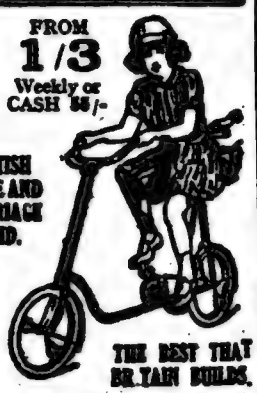

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Human Documents.

Return of the Prodigal

And Other Intensely Human Stories and Problems from Real Life

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." In every case the name and address of the writer are suppressed so that the authors may not be identified. In cases that are too intimate or are not of sufficient interest to be helpful to others, correspondents must send stamped addressed envelopes if they wish to be answered through the post. Ten shillings is sent to each of the writers of the first three letters printed.

"AFTER serving twelve months' imprisonment for embezzlement, our only son will be released shortly. His crime was a result of the usual temptations which beset young fellows in their teens—fast companions and gambling—but in spite of the serious nature of his error, I, his mother, know him to be a really good-hearted lad, weak willed, it is true, but far from being possessed of a criminal instinct.

"The disgrace of his sentence was a great blow to his father who, well respected as a business man of this town, feels that he has suffered quite a number of rebuffs and some ostracism through one whom he calls a scapegrace ungrateful son, and he insists that never again shall we acknowledge him or allow him to enter our home.

"For my own part I care little what outsiders say, but am ready to forget the past and to give my son the home life and place he had before he went to prison.

"During the last few weeks our divergent views on this matter have caused many bitter quarrels, but so convinced am I that my attitude is the one to follow that I am prepared to go to any lengths to give my boy a new start. My intention is to meet him as he leaves the jail and to take him home as if the unfortunate incident had never happened. His father swears that if I do so it will mean our parting.

"I have a considerable amount of money in my own right, and if such an unfortunate development did arise I would be able to carry on quite well without his support."

"Humanist" says: *I can understand a mother's pathetic belief in her boy—which is probably not misplaced. But don't quarrel with your husband. Help the boy to make a start elsewhere. Appeal to his better nature to make good and justify your confidence. If he does—the whole family may ultimately be reunited in glad and mutual confidence. Such a prospect is worth some sacrifice. Make it by not underestimating a father's grief and resentment at betrayal by his son.*

The Wife who Forgot

"I AM a married man, with a wife and three dear little children. Unfortunately, three years ago I was stricken down with the terrible disease, consumption. I was brought to hospital and have never been out since, but I have made good progress and the doctors tell me that in about three months time I shall be able to return to light employment.

"Now, my wife was informed of this good news by the sister of the ward. She took it very seriously and came and said that she had a confession to make to me.

"Since I have been ill she has been carrying on with another man, and is expecting to become a mother in six months' time. He has promised to look after her and the three children, provided her husband does not trouble him or expose him where he works.

"This news was a terrible shock to me, and I do not know what to do, for I still love my wife and children but have no prospects of work when I come out of hospital."

"Humanist" says: *You have been cruelly treated by this man, and you are entitled to recover damages—if he has the money to pay, money that I am sure you would settle on the children. If he hasn't—your lot is hard indeed. You say that you still love your wife—a generous expression. Do you love her enough to forgive her? Do you think that she would stick to you and help you to fight the battle for your sake and that of the children? If you do—risk it and take on the added burden. Of course you could not then get damages from the other man.*

Business in Peril

"WHEN I left the Army in 1919 I began a wholesale grocery business on my own account, sinking into the concern along with my own money a sum of £5,000 lent to me by an eccentric uncle who was, before he retired, connected with the same trade. My undertaking, mainly through my own endeavour and initiative, has done well, and consistently good profits have been my happy lot from the very commencement. It may appear strange, therefore, when I say that very soon I shall have to close down this enterprise which is bringing in such a good return.

"This development has come about through the interference of my relative who put forward the funds which enabled me to make a beginning. He has decidedly old-fashioned ideas as to how the concern should be managed, and when he suggested a certain method of handling consignments, which were good enough in his time, but which would prove disastrous to-day, I promptly turned down his idea. This has proved a blow to his pride, from which he has not recovered.

"Now, one provision in his loan is that it shall be repaid within three months after his demand, which can be made at any time, and my rejection of his advice has caused him, during last week, to give notice of withdrawal of his money from my use.

"This turn of events is indeed a catastrophe for me, for this involves the sale of my stock and premises at once—my other assets being unrealisable for a very considerable period. In short, my uncle's resentment means for me the loss of as thriving a business as it is possible in these days to obtain anywhere."

"Humanist" says: *Don't throw up the sponge so easily: if your business is as good as you say it is, certainly it should be possible to raise five thousand on debentures to pay out your early-Victorian uncle. Ask your bank manager for his advice.*

Woman's Dilemma.

"I am a married woman, and my hairdresser unexpectedly kissed me while doing my hair. He says that if I tell he will be ruined. What is my duty to my husband?"

Not to go near the hairdresser again. But tell the police, as you do not wish to prosecute, to give this man a warning.

Bigamous Marriage.

"A woman marries and after marriage finds that her husband has committed bigamy by marrying her. Is she legally entitled to contract a second marriage without first obtaining release from her marriage with the bigamist?

The bigamous marriage was not a marriage at all, and therefore no bar to a real marriage.

The Commission Fiend.

"The hall-porter in the block of flats where I live gets commission from the grocers, dairymen, etc., and I find the bills always wrong. If I complain, he says he will lose his job."

Don't deal with people who overcharge you. In that way you will do yourself good and the hall-porter no harm.

Too Cheap Jewellery.

"My daughter, who works and lives alone in London, has been asked by a girl friend to sell jewellery to her colleagues. It is so cheap she thinks it must be stolen. She asks my advice."

She should have nothing to do with dubious transactions of this kind. Many sharks get innocent people to act as their agents in this way.

An Unhappy Child.

"A little girl came to my door for food. I am childless and, as the poor mite was cold, I took her in. She is still with me and complains bitterly of a drunken father. Would it be wrong of me to keep her altogether?"

Decidedly wrong. You have no right to steal anybody's child. If the father is a drunkard there are other ways of protecting the child beside stealing it. Seek the advice of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The Erring Brother.

"My brother has stolen some jewels. I have them. The police are making enquiries. Is it best to open out to them and speak the truth? Or shall I remain silent in the hope that their investigations fails?"

Your first duty is to restore the stolen property. That done, the situation is easier. Appeal to your brother to go straight, and give him a chance by saying nothing more. I think a brother is entitled to stretch a point in favour of a brother's blood is thicker than water.

Words Winged to Women

TIED TO A LUNATIC

No Escape for Many Women

by **MABEL HORNER**

THERE was always a mystery about little Mrs X. At least that was what the neighbours said, who thought that little Mrs. X seemed "close."

It was odd that she preserved strict silence about the deceased John X. Occasionally she would go on mysterious journeys which she refused to speak about. And naturally this was highly disconcerting in a district where friendly interest in one another is the rule.

Lady Buckmaster who, like her husband, is interested in Divorce Reform.

Mrs. X worked her fingers to the bone striving to keep a home together for herself and her tiny babe. She spent long days and sleepless nights bending over a sewing-machine at ill-paid tasks. And even when the food for the week was secured, there was a dreadful shadow on her face that deepened when she scanned the boy's tiny features with her tragic eyes.

In spite of those eyes Mrs. X was exceptionally attractive. She was young. Offers of marriage came to her; she might have had an easier life. But Mrs. X refused them all.

"It would be better for the boy," said the neighbours.

When the child caught an illness and died, a keen observer might have fancied that the bereaved mother looked almost relieved. The sympathetic wondered afresh. And they wondered more when the most eligible of her suitors tried again to press his claims and still the little woman was unresponsive.

The tragic look in her eyes deepened and she seemed to droop. "Close" and "odd" to the last, Mrs. X grew ever more weary and wan-looking, and finally died, worn out with poverty and brooding before she was middle-aged.

IT was after her death that the truth came out. Mrs. X was not a widow according to the law. After a few weeks of uneasy, fear-stricken marriage, her husband had been declared a hopeless, dangerous lunatic with homicidal tendencies. Is it any wonder that she viewed with relief the death of her child?

But she herself was shut out from life and happiness because of her legal bond to this man who, while living, was yet dead.

It is cases such as this that the promoters of Divorce Law Reform seek to relieve. It is proposed to make certified lunacy a ground for divorce after five years. The Bill, known as Lord Buckmaster's Bill, introduces this clause. Last year this Bill received a majority in the House of Lords. It went into Committee for revision, with intention to bring it before the Autumn Session. But the election came.

What now is to be the fate of Divorce Law Reform? Are cases such as Mrs. X's to remain in all their hopeless and intolerable hardship, or are they to have the possibility of relief? Women of the country can decide.

The promoters are hoping to reintroduce this measure of reform. But there is opposition—chiefly organised by the Churches. The Churches maintain that lunacy must not be treated as an ailment distinct from others. It must be regarded just as any other disease.

In this view sentiment is outweighing reason. Many a hopeless invalid is still a pleasant and valued intimate of the home. With lunacy the case is different. Humanity demands kind treatment of the sufferer, but marriage with such a partner smacks of insanity in itself. Parenthood in such an instance is unthinkable.

IT is strange that public opinion still needs to be educated on such an issue. There would, of course, be no compulsion upon those who wished to hug their useless bonds. But for others there must be relief.

How to Keep Well

That Cocktail Habit

Get rid of it!

by **A WIMPOLE STREET PHYSICIAN**

I AM not a teetotaler or a pussy-foot. I believe that alcohol has its uses—but also its abuses. And one of its most flagrant abuses is the form of the cocktail.

Cocktail drinking, as a British habit, is comparatively new. American bars have been familiar objects in the great hotels for a good many years, but they weren't really acclimatised until recently—perhaps, really since the war, or just before the war.

And in the war there were famous cocktail bars: who can forget the legendary cocktail with the dash of alcohol—and a terrible kick—at Harley's bar at Amiens, or the champagne cocktails at the Folkestone in Boulogne?

But, you say, I thought this was going to be a condemnation of that cocktail habit—and already the author is displaying an embarrassing familiarity with some of the more outrageous examples of the habit! True, but one's advice is all the sounder when founded upon experience.

WHAT I consider particularly detestable is to observe youngsters of seventeen and eighteen—of both sexes, but girls more commonly than boys—tossing off one cocktail after another in hotel lounges and in country houses, during that odd hour or so that comes somewhere between tea and dinner.

Not that the habit is any better in older people; but if these youngsters contract this habit—and they are doing it more and more every day—then God help the future of the British race!

WHY are cocktails so bad? Because they are mainly composed of undiluted spirits; that is the essential, although they are combined with flavouring essences and other constituents of lesser importance, the action of which is to incite a desire for more in the drinker. Cocktails are insidious. They do not seem to be at all potent as one drinks them—and so one has another.

And, again, cocktails are drunk on an empty stomach, before a meal. The idea is that they give an appetite, but that is quite untrue: what they do is, by acting as an irritant, to cause an outpouring of mucus in the stomach.

Alcohol differs from nearly every other food and drink by being absorbed directly from the stomach itself—other foods are absorbed from the intestines. When taken in concentrated form on an empty stomach it is absorbed extremely rapidly, and being in this form an irritant, it damages the tissues. Many young people have hidden within them, all unsuspected, a latent craving for alcohol—due to some hereditary weakness of their nerve fibre—that may, please heaven, never develop.

Every doctor knows that cases have occurred of individuals who have developed an addiction to drugs or to alcohol by having had the drugs or the alcohol administered to them during an acute illness. But these are rare and unusual cases—the illness usually obliterates any pleasurable sensation derived from the drug or the alcohol.

BUT in the case of youngsters who develop the cocktail habit the pleasurable sensation is all too apparent. Not only is this so, but it is a scientific fact that the danger of establishing the alcohol habit is greatly increased when the alcohol is taken but slightly diluted, and this danger is greater in young people.

On the other hand, alcohol well diluted, and taken in moderate quantity and with food, acts as a tonic to the stomach.

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Don't Meddle with the

The First Big Flat Race—A French Bogey Horse—The Gardenrath

I LET the old year out by coding Tutankhamen, the 8 to 1 winner of the Berkshire Hurdle Handicap. I hope this will prove a good omen for 1925.

Fog, Rain and Christmas.

We need a little bucking up, as the racing of the past month has been the dullest I can remember. Fog caused the abandonment of three or four programmes, Christmas cut a week's racing down to two days, and rain and mud have played havoc with the size of many of the fields.

Thank heaven, we have the Lincolnshire entries this week to brighten our drooping spirits. Mr. Compositor set "dripping," but I corrected his little mistake.

One Whispered Tip.

I shall not be able to go into the entries until next week, but, in any event, I do not suppose many punters will contemplate a bet yet awhile. If they do, they are only asking for trouble.

So far, the one whispered tip I have received is for Purple Shade, but I have decided to put a padlock and chain on my betting pocket until well after the weights appear. I advise you to do the same.

A Lincoln Dead Horse.

There is no limit to the "enterprise" of these bold "bookies" of the North. You can have 66 to 1 against Porus coming back from the grave to win the Lincolnshire and equally "generous" odds against Soeur Anne abandoning her stud functions to emulate Sir Gallahad III.

'Ware Niceas.

We have not had long to wait for confirmation of my warning anent the tricks of layers thirsting for easy money over alleged French certainties for the Lincolnshire. With the aid of Press agents an attempt is being made to boost into favouritism Niceas, who used to belong to the Aga Khan. The truth is that this horse has gone back to the breeder from whom he was leased, and has been retired to the stud. He is "full up" for the season and will never see a racecourse again.

An Old Friend.

One who knows his way about the French racing world tells me that he has seen an old friend of ours in Town Guard, the ill-starred Derby favourite of two years ago. It was originally intended, after the ill-luck attending him, that the horse should go to the stud, but Senor Unzue has changed his mind in view of the decided improvement in the horse, and he is to have another season in training. Unless ill-luck knocks him out again, Town Guard will be seen under colours in England next season, and you can take it from me that if he comes over for Ascot there is nothing in training capable of beating him in the Gold Cup or any other race where luck is fairly distributed.

TUTANKHAMEN WON 8 to 1.

"Silver Ring," who coded Tutankhamen for the Berkshire Hurdle at Newbury, was the only Turf writer to tip Mr. Stobart's gelding.

IN THE RAIN.

There's water, water ev'rywhere,
  But not a drop to drink.
Just like the "Ancient Mariner,"
  And lucky? I *don't* think!

The horse I came to back was there,
  He looked in proper trim;
He ran up to his character,
  But, oh, he could not swim!

So now I'm standing in the soak,
  An Orphan of the Storm;
I'm sopping wet and nearly broke,
  And what's the good of form?

A fish might do it—but a horse!
  It isn't fair to race!
If fishes raced I'd win, of course,
  By backing for a plaice!

I really don't know what to do,
  On what to put my shirt.
I wish that I could plunge on FLU
  I bet that that's a cert.

The Gardenrath Sequel.

I think most fair-minded sportsmen will agree with the decision of the National Hunt Stewards in awarding the Laleham Steeplechase, the disputed Hurst Park race, to Gardenrath. The objection which gave the spoils to the owner of Hawker in the first place was not a very sporting one, and, but for the oversight on the part of Major Doyle, it would not have been made.

Leave Amateur Events Alone.

One of the big features of National Hunt racing is the large number of events for amateur riders only. These races are, naturally, pleasing to watch, but here the wise punter's interest in them ceases. Over and over again I have seen the best horse lose owing to inferior jockeyship. If backers must have a little flutter in the races for amateurs, I think they will find it pays to follow the best horsemen—Mr. H. A. Brown and Mr. Filmer Sankey. Unfortunately, the latter does not have many mounts these days, but he is almost as dangerous to oppose as Mr. H. A. Brown.

Mr. Filmer Sankey.

A One-Legged Rider.

I noticed Mr. S. Bennet up on his own horse, Start Again, at Cheltenham. The gelding came to grief, but, happily, the rider was not hurt. Mr. S. Bennet is a brother to the late Captain Bennet, and he possesses an artificial leg. It needs a bit of pluck to take fences with a handicap of this nature.

The First American Invader.

Mr. Edward Head, from Lexington, Kentucky, is the first of the American invaders to show his hand, for I learn that he has an agent in Europe to-day negotiating for training quarters at Maisons Laffitte, near Paris. One of the horses he is sending across is Tug of War, a son of Man o' War, the famous American crack.

SELECTIONS FOR JANUARY 17.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION I.
HOME WINNERS.
Aston Villa, *Blackburn R., *Bury, Cardiff C., Huddersfield, Preston N.E.
AWAY WINNERS.
Spurs, *Bolton W.
DRAWS.
*Manchester C. v. Liverpool, *Sunderland v. W. Bromwich.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.
HOME WINNERS.
Barnsley, Clapton O., Hull C., *Middlesbrough, *Oldham A., *Wolverhampton W.
AWAY WINNERS.
*Manchester U., Chelsea.
DRAWS.
Fulham v. Derby C., *Portsmouth v. Blackpool, Stoke v. Leicester C.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (Southern).
HOME WINNERS.
*Brighton, *Bristol C., Charlton, *Plymouth, Queen's Park R., Reading *Swindon, *Watford.
AWAY WINNER—*Swansea.
DRAWS.
*Bournemouth v. Gillingham.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (Northern).
HOME WINNERS.
*Barrow, *Bradford, Chesterfield, *Darlington, *Nelson, *Walsall, Wrexham.
AWAY WINNER—*New Brighton.
DRAWS.
*Lincoln v. Southport, Tranmere R. v. Doncaster R., *Wigan v. Crewe.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.
HOME WINNERS.
*Airdrieonians, Dundee, *Hibernians, Raith R., *Rangers, *Third Lanark.
AWAY WINNERS.
*Celtic, Hearts.

(For coupon purposes, nap selections are marked with an asterisk.)

Football Prophecies that

FROM this week onwards football fans will have the Cup as well as the League to excite them, as the first round of the English knock-out competition is due this week-end.

Some clubs, of course, may be able to have an interest in the trophy and the League championship as well for some time yet, although it is tremendously long odds against any one bringing off the double.

The tie between Bolton Wanderers and Huddersfield must necessarily remove one team who with any luck in the draw could have been fancied to reach the later rounds. It was a minor tragedy when this pair came out of the bag together.

As We Said.

When managers and others, after that terribly heavy holiday programme, were able to sit up and see how their clubs stood in the Leagues, they found many of my prophecies to be true.

Between November 1 and the half-way stage, I warned readers that West Bromwich Albion and Huddersfield would retrieve their lost positions; that Bolton would rapidly advance up the table; and that Notts County would not hold the leadership for long.

All this has come true, and so has my more recent assertion that Sheffield United were not playing as they would do. But since then they have done so.

Why Notts Went Down.

That Notts County could not hold their position must have been foreseen by more than myself. Any team that has been scoring less than a goal per match obviously is in a false position when at or near the top of the League.

A cast-iron defence is all very well in its way, but it cannot help forward out every week, and when it fails to do so and its own front line can't get goals there can only be one result.

However, although Notts County have dropped out—they actually lost five games in December—the great struggle for the championship is going to continue. As they say in racing circles, there will be a punishing finish.

United's Decline.

I think I can also pat myself on the back over Swansea, who were top of their division when the half-year accounts were made up. They went some way down the table when I told readers to purchase Swansea stock, or in other words, to follow the Welsh club

Lincoln Entries

...equel—Amateurs Only—A One-Legged Rider

PADDOCK PARS.

A friend of mine who witnessed the Grand ...ton at Aintree tells me that Ballinode, the ...nner, jumped the course like a stag. ...ering accidents Ballinode is a certain starter ... the National.

* * *

Mr. E. H. Tattersall is selling off his horses. ...is means that Ned Carver will go up for ...e.

* * *

The French Government's share of the ...ri-mutuel wagers for the Flat racing of ...24 was 77,000,000 francs. The punter ...ays pays.

* * *

...on't miss Azimuth for his next engagement.

JUMPERS TO FOLLOW.

Ruddyglow.—Mr. Filmer Sankey owns ...seful 'chaser in Ruddyglow, whom he ...e to victory at Newbury. Now that ... six-year-old has found winning form ...should be followed. He beat Master ...bert over three miles last season before ... latter won the National.

Barrackton Lad.—I thought Ben...t's horse was rather unlucky to be ...ten by Signet at Newbury. His turn ... come shortly, particularly if exploited ... selling race.

Seeker.—Although this youngster was ...wed to start at 100 to 8 at Wolver...mpton on Boxing Day, he was quietly ...ried and landed the each way money.

Sancroft.—The victory of Mr. F. A. ...wn's horse at Cheltenham pleased one ... plunger who took £6,000 to £2,000. ... was Sancroft's first attempt over ...es and he won very easily.

Musteline.—When Duller is on the ...ods" he doesn't try to win by a short ...d. He rode Musteline at Kempton, ... his nearest opponent was twenty ...ths away. I understand that Night...ll's youngster is to be schooled over ...s. I think he will pay to follow as ... built for the bigger game.

Emphatic.—I included Emphatic in ...first-six jumpers to follow, and he ...ed up again at Wolverhampton at the ...price of sixes. McKenna's consistent ...er has done us two or three good ..., and will continue to pay his way. ... not built to carry heavy burdens, ...s all right with anything under 12 ...e.

Redshank.—I noticed this 'chaser jumping splendidly at Kempton until badly baulked by the loose horse Fitzpicton. The gelding will win before long.

Corlach.—I have mentioned Coulthwaite's youngster before in these notes. The gelding is not a top-notcher, but is very useful in second-rate company, and will go on winning.

Brixton.—Frank Hartigan's flat racer was an absentee at Kempton owing to the awful conditions. If all I have heard about him is correct he will prove to be one of the best hurdlers in the country. Do not miss him first time out.

Le Cellier.—Take no notice of Le Cellier's form at Kempton. The 'chaser struck a soft patch and slipped up on the flat.

"SILVER RING."

THIS WEEK'S SELECTIONS

Tenby, Wednesday,
FALSE REPORT, JARGOON.

Tenby, Thursday,
SMERDIS, B.V.

Gatwick, Friday,
TROIKA, ARDGOUR.

Gatwick, Saturday,
BRIXTON, AZIMUTH.

"JOHN BULL'S" CODE.

Two coded selections will be given daily in the following papers:—

Sporting Life and Sportsman, Sporting Chronicle, Sporting Pink, Western Mail, Glasgow Noon Record, Birmingham Mail, Irish Independent.

A X E Q R P L 3 O G J T K F

W 2 S V C M Y U H B Z N I D

How to read the code:—In place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line, as the case may be. GWVYKTHFS would read BALLINODE.

This code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from January 7 to January 18.

Came Off

...was not, however, prepared for the ...e of Manchester United, which ...rd as only temporary. All the same, ... being lengths ahead, so to speak, ... have to commence all over again ... battle for promotion.

...lsea are going very strong, Derby ...y keep their place, while Leicester ...ound up the Old Year with 12 points ...f a possible 16. A side that can do ... not going to miss promotion by far.

... Other Cup-Ties.

...ckled the Cup-ties after the draw ...nade, and last week gave my full ...ons, most of which, I think, will ...nd to be correct even if I am sure ...ll have the usual surprises.

...obably I have commented on the ...s of nearly all the clubs who are ... to make any headway in the ...tition, but there are others.

...don, for instance, are famous ...hters and they should proceed ... second round by ousting Fulham, ... Brighton came into the limelight ...ason by trouncing Everton. They ...bout an even money chance of ... a draw at Watford.

English Cup-Ties this week-end

Curious Clashes.

Queen's Park Rangers have had a mild revival lately, and I must expect them to beat Stockport County.

Tradition alone gives the Wolves a chance at Hull, Blackpool and Southampton are likely winners, but there won't be much in it between Swansea and Plymouth Argyle. Strange that these teams, who are battling for first place in their League section, should be drawn together, and that the two Bristol teams should clash. A draw is forecasted for the latter.

Millwall will be pleased to beat Barnsley, and Norwich City do not altogether fancy their visit to Doncaster. But Portsmouth ought to win at Accrington.

WEEK-END COUPS.

7 HOME.—Aston Villa, Cardiff, Derby County, Southampton, Spurs, Newcastle, West Bromwich.

5 HOME.—Aston Villa, Cardiff, Spurs, West Bromwich, Newcastle.

3 AWAY.—Notts Co., Portsmouth, Rangers.

3 DRAWS.—Wednesday v. Manchester U., Preston N.E. v. Manchester C., Partick T. v. Airdrieonians.

3 HOME, 3 AWAY.—Cardiff, West Bromwich, Newcastle, Notts Co., Rangers.

1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Newcastle Rangers, Wednesday v. Manchester U.

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At this time of the year Zam-Buk is particularly valuable for chapped hands, cold-sores, chilblains, etc. It is also the soothing remedy for eczema, ulcers, piles, scalp disease, poisoned wounds, burns, scalds, etc.

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Our Letter Parliament

Abolish Birth Control?

Our Readers Air their Views on This and Other Subjects

Brief to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited; 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

Majority in Favour.

Leonore Van der Veer's splendid, article in your paper is, in my opinion the most logical argument against birth control, and every true Christian man and woman will welcome it, and thank her. Birth-control is obviously unnatural, and therefore un-Christian. Yet the majority, one is forced to believe, are inclined in its favour. Why so little has been said against it is beyond comprehension.—*E. R. Torbet, Aberdeen.*

Time to Live.

People who work for their living and limit their families to two—or three—children do so because they know that their kiddies will be able to stay at school longer and also receive specialised training before starting out in life. The "Law of Nature," which Miss Van der Veer so glibly quotes, is *not* flagrantly broken. The controlling of child-bearing does not turn marriage into prostitution. It gives people time to think—and live.—*A. C.*

Loose Morality.

So much has been written and said of the desirability of birth control that it is indeed refreshing to read the views of your contributor Miss Van der Veer, and all thoughtful women will be grateful to her for giving expression to the opinions so many of them hold on this question. The theory which girls hear expounded, that a woman needs sex gratification above all else, is a most harmful one, and is responsible for a very great deal of the loose morality which unfortunately prevails.—*Mrs. H., Herne Hill.*

Race Suicide.

I agree with your contributor that there is too much birth control. It is *self-control* we want. If we go on as we are doing we shall very soon find ourselves in the same plight as France. We are committing race suicide. Our young people have not the same moral fibre as former generations. There is too much pleasure to-day and not enough work and religion. And they are practising birth control because they are afraid of taking on responsibilities.—*Mrs. Victor, Bournemouth.*

Another Mouth to Feed.

Knowledge of birth control is essential if we would decrease the number of mothers who "are glad that their children are born dead." Your writer is mistaken in thinking that our men lack self-control. Suppression of the natural is as great an outrage against Nature as over-indulgence, and the penalty perhaps greater, yet thousands suffer—rather than that another child shall be added to the table on which there is seldom enough food to go round.—*Mrs. A. M. Coe, London.*

Married Bliss.

The question is not, as your contributor asserts, "whether we want more licence in respect of the marital relation or whether we want less," but rather how to prevent the existing licence from wrecking the health of society by flooding the country with half-fed and unhealthy children. Mothers of five or six bairns, dreading the advent of yet another, are not consoled by the preaching of high-flown notions about abstinence. They want the knowledge with which to alleviate their misery. Experience teaches that birth control does *not* destroy marital bliss, but tends to enhance it in that it keeps families within the economic limit and gives the kiddies a chance.—*T. D., Rothwell.*

Wearing Out Mother.

Surely your contributor errs in her attitude? Birth control is to prevent the coming into the world of babies who are not really wanted, and who would be condemned to live in poor and unhealthy surroundings, perhaps, through the poverty of the parents. It is also a safeguard against the weakening of woman—frequent births wear out mothers. It is not for the young or the prurient, but for the wise and clean-minded people.—*Tom, Paisley.*

The Yellow Menace.

London is permitted by the laxity of our immigration laws to become the Mecca of Asiatic undesirables. Things are done differently in Australia and the United States. Freedom is a cruel farce when it allows its nationals to become the wantons of the archpriests of immorality in its vilest forms. The vicious spoliation of lonely unprotected British women—not to mention the murderous traffic in dope—clamours for more drastic punishment than fines and imprisonment. Why not the cat—and then deportation?—"*Indignant,*" *Inverness.*

Cause of Crime.

"A Gentleman With A Duster's" method of dealing with criminals is not a practicable one, since medical experts so rarely agree on questions affecting a person's sanity. Moreover, is it not a stated medical fact that nearly everyone exhibits "criminal tendencies" at some time or other? To my mind, the only effective remedy against serious crime is the removal of its chief incentives, viz.: war, unemployment and poverty. During the late war millions were trained in the art of killing, and acute unemployment often leads to crime via poverty. Eliminate these great evils, and crime will be lessened in proportion.—*H. E. B., Hornsey.*

A Parent's Duty.

I am sorry to see that "H.F." advocates sex instruction by teachers. Surely this is not suitable for class teaching, and classes are too large and teachers too busy for individual teaching. The parents would be violently angry, too, as they have been with those teachers who have attempted simple instruction on such matters. Surely it is a parent's duty?—*Mere Teacher, Keighley.*

Free Speech.

Why are people so loth to assist in bringing filthy-mouthed brutes the punishment they deserve? In a certain public park the other Saturday afternoon a man was holding forth at a football match. His language was disgraceful and disgusting, but when a park keeper asked each of half a dozen seemingly shocked listeners if they would go as witnesses to the police court if he reported the offence, they all shrank away, and the bestial one just continued.—"*Clean Speech.*"

Nerve Troubles.

Only the wealthy can afford nursing-home treatment for nervous ailments, and as often as not they run the risk of being considered "mental," as the majority of homes of this nature take a so-called "borderland" cases. When will special hospitals for nervous diseases be provided for our working-class people, many of whom are compelled to remain in a tiny flat surrounded perhaps by a large and noisy family, when suffering from "nerves," or who are labelled "unbalanced," for "convenience' sake," and sent to an asylum?—*J. McL. B., Glasgow.*

Money-Lenders' Tricks.

Referring to your recent articles on the wiles of money-lenders, there is one point which, apparently, has escaped the notice of most writers. When a man wants to borrow say £100 at say 25 per cent., the usurer merely hands over to him the sum of £75. It therefore comes to this that the wretched borrower is paying £25 for a loan of £75—making the interest per cent. something like 33 instead of 25 per cent. It is more than possible that many borrowers, not having a mathematical brain, quite fail to perceive how they are being "done."—"*P. R.*"

The Hidden Hand.

Mr. Ponsonby's article on the alien menace leaves the real root of the matter undisturbed. The cry "Britain for the British" is neither alarmist nor unnecessary. A persistent attempt to undermine and destroy our sense of nationality has been going on for many years as the first move to the disintegration of our empire. Have we already forgotten the menace of "The Hidden Hand"? This power lies behind every social subversive movement, and has its agents fixed in many key positions of government.—*Student of History, Exmouth.*

Robbing the Child.

What is the difference between a legitimate child whose father was killed in the war and an illegitimate child in the same circumstances? According to the Royal Warrant 1919 it is 2s. per week for sixteen years. The hard struggle faced by the unmarried mother and unwanted child has frequently been emphasised in your journal. Yet the Government actually fines every illegitimate child whose father was killed in action the sum of £83 4s. by the time the child attains the age of sixteen. Can it be that the saving of this blood money is necessary?—"*Interested,*" *Kingborn.*

Printers' Pie

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie.")

"WESTERN EVENING HERALD":—"All the people were going along and a WOMAN with her umbrella up BLEW INSIDE OUT."

"WEEKLY WELCOME": — "Ella's bright face was serious with trouble and perplexity as she CRIED to COMFORT her friend."

"BOW BELLS":—"BEHIND her was a door, and with difficulty she repressed a scream as she SAW that it was opening slowly."

"GIRLS' FRIEND":—"She looked at him almost appealingly as she PASSED HIM BY; but SHE STOOD THERE, stern, silent, rigid."

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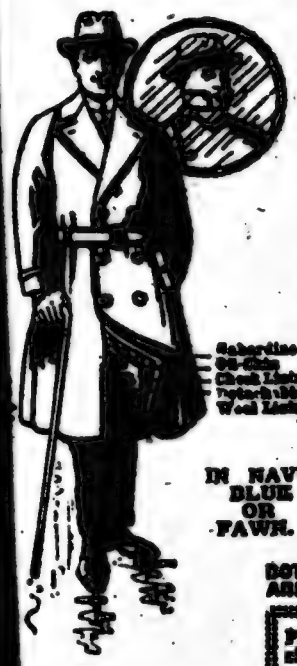

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Letter from Mrs. E. M. Sullivan

Mrs. E. M. Sullivan, of Bagian Lodge East, Briton Ferry, South Wales, writes as follows:—"As the result of a serious illness I became the victim of nervous dyspepsia. I was always afraid to eat, and for a long time suffered terribly from the complaint. I tried every remedy I could think of, but nothing gave me any relief, and I had almost come to the conclusion that it was no use my making further effort, when a friend recommended Dr. Cassell's Tablets. I had little faith in this, but I decided to try them, and I experienced relief after the first box. I continued to take them for a few months, and now I can enjoy my food. I am very thankful they were recommended to me."

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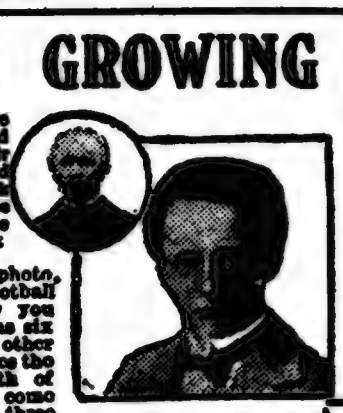

Those who are bald or troubled with falling hair will be interested in Mr. Jack Evans' experience as related in the following letter:

"The small photo, taken from a football group, will show you how bald I was six months ago. The other photograph proves the wonderful growth of hair which has come through using three boxes of Kotalko.

"I had gradually been losing my hair for a long time, until at last I became almost completely bald, with hardly a hair on my head. My hair previous to the baldness was very straight and thin, whereas to-day it is a mass of wonderful curls.

"I can strongly recommend Kotalko to those who are bald, losing hair, or troubled with dandruff.

"Yours faithfully,
"(Signed) JACK EVANS."

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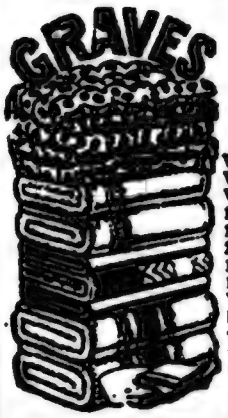

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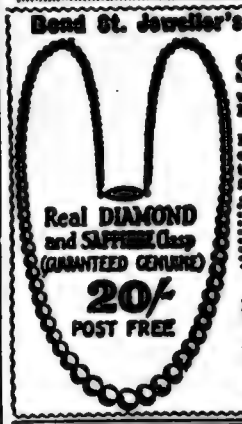

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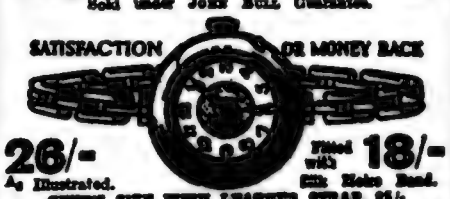

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Do you get up in the morning with a stopped-up nose? Are your breathing passages clogged with a cold? Does your head feel choked up and dull? Have you that mean, low-spirited feeling which comes from lack of proper oxygen? If so, here is a pleasant, harmless cigarette that will clear out the head, nose and throat.

These cigarettes are the formula of Dr. J. W. Blosser, and are composed of medicinal herbs, flowers and berries.

Dr. Blosser's Cigarettes contain no tobacco, no cubebs, nothing habit forming, and are entirely harmless. They are used by women and children as well as men. These are not to be confused with the "cubeb" or other similar cigarettes.

It is so simple to inhale this pleasant and soothing smoke. Much more convenient than using sprays, washes, douches, etc.

Write immediately to Dr. Blosser, Ltd. (Dept. 121 C.H.), Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London, E.C.4, and you will receive a trial package by return post. Enjoy a delightful surprise by having a clear head.

The small size package, containing 20 cigarettes, is sold by all chemists at 1s. 6d.

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How Indigestion is Caused.

It is a mistake to suppose that you can help your digestion by eating only essential nourishment separated from all waste. The stomach has been furnished by Nature with the power to separate nourishment and waste material, and organs that are not used become sluggish. You must use them, yet not abuse them.

Indigestion and stomach trouble are conditions that follow a defective state of the blood, as in anæmia, or after influenza, or even through lack of healthy exercise and fresh air. Indigestion deprives the blood of nourishment, so there is close connection between a weak stomach and bloodlessness.

To dispel indigestion new, good blood is necessary, and it has been repeatedly proved that the rich, red blood created by Dr. Williams' pink pills has a direct influence on the stomach, digestion and nerves. This new blood revives the appetite, restores the stomach and digestive powers to healthy activity.

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Radio Talks.

Overhauling Your Set

by MICHAEL EGAN

RADIO amateurs should make a point of overhauling their sets periodically, and as there is a time like the present, I propose to offer a few practical hints on the subject. I do not suggest that any elaborate dismantling of the apparatus be attempted. All that is necessary is a brief inspection of the various parts, with a view to removing some of the common "faults" that every receiving outfit tends to develop in the course of time.

Starting with the aerial, this should certainly be lowered for inspection if it is at all practicable to do so.

On lowering an aerial that has been in use for some months it will be found that the insulators have acquired a coating of dirt from the atmosphere.

The insulators should be cleaned until all traces of dirt are removed. Similar treatment should be applied to the insulated tube that conducts the lead-in to the house.

THE next step is to remove every speck of dust from the receiving instrument, particularly from the ebonite panel to which most receivers are fitted.

The valves should be removed when cleaning the panel, and special care should be given to the removal of dust particles from between the sockets of the valve-holders.

It will often be found that a quantity of dust has accumulated on the base of each valve, between the prongs. This should also be removed carefully. (Some valves, by the way, sometimes get into this condition, as the result of being packed in shavings.) On replacing the valves, try rearranging them in various positions—unless, of course, they are specifically designed for one purpose only. A reshuffle of valves often improves reception, because of the changes that have taken place in their condition during use.

Examine your high-tension battery carefully with the aid of a voltmeter, testing each cell separately. If you come to a "dud" cell, remove it completely from the battery, if possible. If this is not convenient, "short" it by joining the two cells on each side of it. Clean the terminals of your accumulator and remove all traces of acid from the outside of the container. (Incidentally, it is a good plan to smear the terminals with vaseline; this will prevent them from being corroded by the acid.)

* * *

Our Contributor will be pleased to answer readers' queries on wireless reception. Address him c/o John Bull, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2.

"John Bull" Guarantee

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee. Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles. But every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona fides of all advertisements in "John Bull."

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked ℞—In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects. Any complaint must reach us within a month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in case of dispute the decision of the Managing Director shall be final.

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IT makes no difference whether you have had previous lessons or not, whether you are YOUNG OR OLD, WE GUARANTEE that you can play the piano to-day by this wonderful and simple system. There are no sharps, flats or theoretical difficulties to worry you, and no tiresome or wearisome exercises or scales to be learnt. You play correctly with both hands. No difficulty or drudgery whatever.

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Take advantage of the offer we make on the coupon below, and by return of post you will receive eight tunes which we guarantee you can play; thus you can prove for yourself the simplicity of our system and the accuracy of our statements. This small outlay will open up the delights of the vast realm of music to you, and give you many years of purest pleasure.

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I send herewith postal order for One Shilling and Sixpence for which please send me Your Special Instruction Book published at 2/6 containing eight pieces of music, and particulars showing how I can become a thorough musician.

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KEEP YOUR TROUSERS "POSH."—6/- only buys the British-made "Climax" Patent Trouser Press. Solidly constructed, nickel fittings, polished Jacobean, this press is wonder value. It is sold direct to the public by the Manufacturers, The London Road Manufg. Co., Staines, Middx., and the price includes carriage anywhere in the U.K. Send to-day for Free Illustrated Catalogue.

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SEE THE NAME "CADBURY" ON EVERY PIECE OF CHOCOLATE.

John Bull's Letter Bag

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious, and he wants you to see it in this light. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note and take his leave with a smile. Serious questions are handled by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service. See note at top of last column this page.

T. C. (Pinner).—"You're always so wise." And never otherwise.

B. C. (Hull).—"If I were you I should behave with more dignity." Of course you would.

A. Y. (Flint).—"Lack of harmony beat the Liberals at the election." Lack of votes had a good deal to do with it.

R. M. (Bognor).—"It's the overhead that makes business so costly to-day." Plus the fathead.

E. R. (Dundee).—"May I tax your memory?" Heavens, no! It hasn't come to that yet!

L. L. (Aberdeen).—"You understand that what I have written must go no further?" We've seen to that!

H. S. (York).—"Truth is nearly always stranger than fiction." But it doesn't sound as well.

E. G. (Bath).—"I'd much sooner be good than great." Well, you won't find much competition.

T. F. (Hatfield).—"I've got a very powerful voice. What do you think I ought to do with it?" Whisper!

O. R. (Sedbergh).—"I've come to the conclusion that I know very little." We believe you.

H. H. (Kendal).—"I'm sometimes afraid I've got more money than sense." Have you got any money?

G. C. (Hove).—"In my choir there are more women than men." What a problem these surplice women are!

H. D. (Leeds).—"Do you believe in long engagements?" Certainly: the longer the engagement, the shorter the married life.

W. F. (Carlisle).—"All the neighbours say my little boy is growing up just like me." Well, what's the harm, so long as he's healthy?

M. L. (Ayton).—"I may write again soon, but don't take me for a prophet." And if you don't write again soon we shan't take you for a loss, either.

P. D. (Settle).—"Many a man's reputation has been ruined by drink." But just think of the number of men who have ruined the reputation of drink.

R. N. (Lancaster).—"I'm always looking for the best way to help people." The best way is to refrain from giving them advice.

V. C. (Liverpool).—"My fiancée says I must give up smoking, but it needs a very strong will." When you're married you'll probably find she's got one.

T. H. (Bristol).—"It would have been thrilling to live in the days when passengers were boarded by pirates." Well, all you have to do is to spend your next holiday at the seaside.

S. M. (Glasgow).—"I'm a wee Scotch." We swallow that, gladly.

R. W. (Balham).—"Mine is a model husband." But is he a working model?

F. H. (Purley).—"You can always judge a pretty girl by her eyes." And a stoutish girl by her sighs.

H. W. (Salford).—"I am proud to be a working man." And, no doubt, even more thankful to be a man working.

GLADYS V. (S.W. 3).—"Wherever I go nowadays all the men seem to be bachelors" Perhaps that's why you go.

H. W. (Purley).—"Six days running I've never missed my train." And a very good way of taking exercise, too.

L. P. (Arley).—"Life is just whatever you choose to make of it." It is also governed by what you can make out of it.

N. F. D. (Street).—"I never smoke when I'm thinking." You seem to be a very heavy smoker.

L. D. (Fenwick).—"The London girl doesn't seem to mind how she is clothed." She doesn't care a wrap, in fact.

H. J. (Mortlake).—"I have a weakness for a nice apple." So had a very early ancestor of yours.

P. B. (Hastings).—"Engaged couples never seem to get to know much about each other." That's probably because they keep each other so much in the dark.

R. G. (Morecambe).—"There's no such thing as bad music." Then all we can say is that there's an awful lot that's just on the turn.

G. G. (Rye).—"I see there are still thirteen sovereigns in Europe." Now, however did America come to overlook them?

T. D. (Minehead).—"I can't think how you keep so bright every week." Well, we didn't take any lessons from the climate.

O. P. (Macclesfield).—"I earn £5 a week, and have to spend it all—it's jolly hard." We should have thought it was jolly easy.

D. T. (Conway).—"Men don't dress much for the theatre nowadays." We haven't noticed any excess among the women.

"PADRE" (Frinton).—"A parson's dealings with humanity make him quick at putting two and two together." That's due, no doubt, to his being skilled at putting one and one together.

H. W. (Swindon).—"I am my own boss." Whereas we're married.

M. B. (London, S.W.).—"The modern girl is not so black as she's painted." Or as pale as she's powdered.

L. D. D. (Milngavie).—"What is nicer than a Scotch reel?" A real Scotch strikes us as not so bad.

C. H. (Croydon).—"Nothing is accomplished by sitting still." How about a hen hatching eggs?

R. J. B. (Bacup).—"The manager of the shop assured me that his bacon was sold below cost." That's gammon!

G. L. Y. (Ramsgate).—"Although I was alone, I distinctly heard voices quite near me." Perhaps your teeth were chattering.

P. L. S. (Soho).—"What I say is 'Thumbs up!'" This especially applies to waiters carrying soup.

H. K. (Mayfair).—"Somebody steals the bottles of milk from our door." The cat burglar, of course.

P. M. (Durham).—"I know what I'm talking about." Your letter makes that perfectly clear: the subject, we gather, is . . . nothing.

"MOTHER" (Grindon).—"He is a good son to me, but he's always in debt." While being a credit to you, he appears to be a debit to his creditors.

F. P. (Wolverhampton).—"Believe me, I don't swallow everything I find in newspapers." Most people, of course, *do* throw the bones away.

FRED. P. (Marsden).—"Courtship is one thing, marriage another." Then divorce appears to be the result of one thing after another.

L. M. (Chatham).—"What is the relation of the size of the head to mental calibre?" It depends whether the head is naturally large or temporarily swelled.

A. E. (Bruton).—"I should not want to go on living if I hadn't wonderful memories." Your life in the future, in fact, depends upon your ability in the present to live in the past.

G. J. L. (Faversham).—"The barber nicked a piece out of my ear." We're afraid you're inexperienced. When you agree with a barber, don't nod—it's safer to grunt.

A. A. C. (Hampstead).—"Nothing is so bad that it does not contain at least a few elements of good." Few people could be so broadminded over a doubtful breakfast egg.

1/- PACKET OF REAL GLOSSY PHOTOGRAPHS OF FAMOUS FILM STARS FREE!

A Special Gift to "John Bull" readers who enter for the Great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest in the "Picturegoer"—the Movie Magazine-de-Luxe—One Shilling.

This voucher brings you absolutely **FREE** by return post a 1/- packet of real glossy photographs of **HAROLD LLOYD, GLORIA SWANSON, IVOR NOVELLO,** and **BETTY COMPSON** Cut it out and attach it to the Free Voting Coupon for the Great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest which appears in the January "Picturegoer," now on sale, One Shilling. You may also win first prize of £250, or one of the many other big cash prizes.

J.B.

Voucher

1/- packet of real photographs FREE.

GET a copy of the January "Picturegoer" to-day. Enter for the great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest on the **FREE VOTING COUPON** which you will find on page 6 of the January "Picturegoer." Post your Voting Coupon, together with this Voucher, to the "Picturegoer." As a special Free Gift you will be sent, by return of post, in exchange for this Voucher, a genuine 1/- packet of superb, real glossy photographs (postcard size) of Harold Lloyd, Gloria Swanson, Ivor Novello, and Betty Compson. In addition you may win a huge Cash Prize.

N.B.—This Voucher does not entitle you to a Free 1/- packet of photographs unless it is accompanied by the Free Voting Coupon from the January "Picturegoer."

Available until January 17, 1925.

FRANCE might pay her debt; heat waves might come in January; food might be given away free; but you would still have worries—unless you wrote to JOHN BULL about them.

It's the only way to solve those problems and difficulties of yours.

Our wonderful Free Advice Service is ready to help you. It does not matter what your trouble is—Love, Law, Business, Pensions, Domestic, Sport, etc.—we have a specialist who can deal with it.

Enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your query, and a confidential reply will be sent you through the post.

Don't delay; write now!

E. B. (Chatham).—"It's no crime to be poor." No, sir! But it's darned inconvenient.

J. B. S. (Burnley).—"I am a glass-blower." That's how you get the fine off?

"KNUT" (Bond Street).—"I detest a bad fit." So do we. Why not see a doctor?

E. B. (Cheltenham).—"I believe in mystery." Ah, that explains your writing.

P. P. (Leicester).—"She sat on the tram and slid right down the stairs!" And did she meet you going up unaware!

J. T. (Poplar).—"He calls me 'Gem' for short." He probably won't call you "Gem" for long.

C. H. B. (Nantyffyllan) and others.—"Many thanks for my *Bullets* Turkey. I'm hoping to shoot something big shortly." Then don't miss this week's big-game hunting—£500 is offered in a *one-week* contest.

J. A. C. (Wolverhampton).—"I must sit next to the cashier." Good! Now you're on the *safe* side.

R. H. (Ancorn).—"A profiteer cannot possibly be a white man." Then swearers are, and bakers aren't.

P. F. M. (Manchester).—"We are all "short" these days because of the big out-going." *And* the small in-coming.

M. G. B. (Letchworth).—"It is my wife and my two daughters who run the house." The rule of three.

L. G. (Honor Oak).—"I expect you have to wade through a lot of letters every morning." Some of them make us feel like going off the deep end.

W. B. (Sunderland).—"A few years ago I was struck on going on the stage." Still we suppose the place has been built up by this time.

K. J. (Margate).—"What do you think of Cross-words?" Well, they don't matter so much, provided you always say you are sorry afterwards.

D. E. R. (Manchester).—"I believe one should keep trying all day long." Much better than to keep longing all day long!

J. R. (Paignton).—"I can't stand." It's a little difficult to accomplish in any other position. —Scotsmen may agree with you.

K. E. T. (Leeds).—"Simply because I have had my hair shingled my husband has stopped my pin-money." We hope it that you refer to your *hair*-pin money.

C. M. (Sheffield).—"I really cannot make out why people go to the kinema." Very possibly it's because they want to see the pictures.

A. McM. (Blackheath).—"The young men of the upper class spend their time looking after the Society butterflies. While the working woman looks after the grub.

(*Many replies unavoidably held over.*)

DOING BEATS PROMISING.

You Pay Nothing until Convinced.

Readers of JOHN BULL should take advantage without delay of our liberal offer to send a month's supply of the Natural Vitaliser, "Vitæ-Ore," for free trial. Thousands have already experienced its marvellous effects—the new vital energy which it gives, its power of renewing the health and vigour of all.

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Vitæ-Ore has attracted attention by the way that it has given new life and virility to thousands of languid, anxious and exhausted men. It has restored grace and healthy charm to thousands of tired, weary, careworn women, and to girls whose development to womanly life has been delayed. The vital forces are powerfully and noticeably increased by Vitæ-Ore. What is the result? In the office, the factory, at social gatherings, at work, and in hours of leisure people are telling each other how much Vitæ-Ore has done for them that no ordinary medicine could do.

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Vitæ-Ore is not a patent medicine. The British Government recognises it by exempting it from stamp duty. Vitæ-Ore is the residue of a natural boiling spring, found in the desert by Mr. Noel, a famous geologist, and tested and approved by medical men of the highest standing.

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The "Lancet," the most important medical journal in the world, which would never give the authority of its world-famous columns to anything without the best scientific basis, published this statement:—

"The clinical results obtained were most satisfactory."

Vitæ-Ore is perfectly harmless and free from the slightest ill-effects. Fill in the coupon at once. Do not delay. Receive the benefit NOW.

Its Wide Scope.

Dissolved in water Vitæ-Ore not only gives new health and tonic effect through its vitalising power, but has a directly beneficial action upon many long-born diseases, and has produced wonderful cures in cases of

Nervous Weakness	Rheumatism and
Debility	all "run-down"
Dyspepsia	conditions re-
Neurasthenia	sulting from
Phthisis	Stomach, Liver,
Insomnia	and Kidney
	Weakness.

It is a powerful nerve and spinal tonic. The headaches, pains in the back and special weaknesses of women vanish when it is used. A man who, without having any special disease, suffers from general lack of energy, want of manly vigour and ambition, who is easily fatigued, and does not feel the aggressive strength of manhood, will derive new life from Vitæ-Ore—not by any sudden stimulation, but by a powerful tonic action which permanently benefits. Vitæ-Ore has made new men of thousands. You have a free and fair opportunity to try it for a whole month and see whether it will do the same for you. Fill up the coupon NOW.

It WILL Do you Good.

Girls who are bloodless and anæmic—pale, easily tired, short of breath when going upstairs—derive the most wonderful benefits from Vitæ-Ore.

You are asked to use Vitæ-Ore for a month and watch the result. You are to be the judge of the benefit. If the result is satisfactory—if Vitæ-Ore does you good—you pay 4s. 6d. for the whole month's supply. If you are not benefited, simply write and say so, and we ask nothing at all. It is a fair "no benefit—no pay" offer.

But Vitæ-Ore will do you good. It will strengthen and tone up your nerves and your whole system. Your digestion will be better, your eyes brighter, your skin and complexion clearer and younger-looking.

Do not delay. Take advantage of the offer at once. Fill in the coupon or copy it and post it to Theo. Noel Co., Ltd. (Dept. 19), 29, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

FILL IN OR COPY THIS COUPON FOR FREE TRIAL OF ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY.

To the THEO. NOEL CO., LTD.
(Dept. 19), 29, Ludgate Hill,
London, E.C.

Dear Sirs,—

Please send me a month's supply of "Vitæ-Ore," with full directions and free book of particulars.

I will use it according to the "Directions," and promise to report results in 30 days.

If it does me good I will send you 4s. 6d. in payment for the month's course of treatment. If not, I will write and say so, and in that case YOU ARE TO CHARGE ME NOTHING.

Name.....

Address .....

.....

The Secret of "Bobbed" Hair Beauty

How "Harlene Hair Drill" Will Feed, Strengthen & Beautify Your Hair.

1,000,000 Hair-Beautifying and Hair-Growing Outfits FREE.

HERE is good news and a gracious gift of Hair Health and Beauty for the "bobbed," those who think of "bobbing," and, indeed, all interested in their hair.

Women of all ages are having their hair "bobbed." In fact, there is ample evidence that "bobbing" is or is becoming "epidemic" to-day.

Some assert that "bobbing" is non-injurious to the hair. Some contend that it is helpful. Some, again, argue that it actually injures and ultimately destroys the hair.

But—and it is a very important but—whether it be innocuous, injurious, or beneficial, there is no blinking the fact that many things may—and often do—happen if and when the hair is cut short, in part or as a whole—suddenly. The texture and colour may both be affected and even altered. Sometimes it becomes dull or greyish coloured. In many cases there is no doubt that "bobbing" impoverishes the hair, accentuates, if it does not actually activate, loss of quality as well as quantity, dullness, coarseness, loss of lustre, weakness, brittleness, and "falling out."

SPLENDID TONIC FOR "BOBBED" HAIR.

In all such cases the adoption of "Harlene, Hair-Drill" is of the greatest value, and every woman interested in her hair—especially every woman who has "bobbed" her hair or is thinking of having her hair "bobbed"—will find in this wonderfully successful treatment a splendid tonic and food for the hair.

To assist all such women in particular the announcement is made here to-day of a great Free Gift Distribution of no less than 1,000,000 "Harlene-Hair-Drill" Outfits containing:

1. **A BOTTLE OF "HARLENE."** The Hair Food and Tonic with a reputation of upwards of 40 years to prove its efficacy. It is used by leading Actresses, Cinema Queens, and Leaders of Society all over the World, and is the only Hair Food and Tonic which works Nature's Way.
2. **A PACKET OF "CREMEX" SHAMPOO.** This is an antiseptic purifier, which thoroughly cleanses the hair and scalp of all scurf, &c., and prepares the hair for the "Hair-Drill" Treatment.
3. **A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE OF "UZON,"** a high-class Brilliantine that gives to "Harlene-Drilled" Hair the radiant lustre of perfect health, and which is especially beneficial in those cases where the scalp is inclined to be "dry."
4. **THE SECRET MANUAL OF "HARLENE-HAIR-DRILL,"** containing the discoverer's detailed instructions for the most effective method of carrying out the "Hair-Drill."

Eccentricity may attract attention, but Beauty always and everywhere attracts and holds favourable attention and admiration. "Harlene-Hair-Drill" restores, creates and maintains Hair Beauty, and there is a fascination in beautiful hair that bewitches and captivates.

After a Free Trial you will be able to obtain further supplies of "Harlene" at 1/1½d., 2/9, and 4/9 per bottle; "Uzon" Brilliantine at 1/1½d. and 2/9 per bottle; "Cremex" Shampoo Powders 1/6 per box of seven shampoos (single packets 3d. each); and "Astol" Hair Colour Restorer at 3/- and 5/- per bottle from Chemists and Stores all over the world.

"HARLENE" FREE GIFT FORM.

Detach and post to EDWARDS' HARLENE, Ltd., 20, 22, 24 & 26, Lamb's Conduit St., London, W.C. 1.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me your Free "Harlene" Four-Fold Hair-Growing Outfit as described above. I enclose 4d. in stamps for postage and packing of parcel.

"John Bull." 10/1/25

NOTE TO READER.

Write your full name and address clearly on a plain piece of paper, pin this coupon to it, and post as directed above. Mark envelope "Sample Dept."

N.B.—If your Hair is GREY, enclose extra 2d. stamp—6d. in all—and a FREE bottle of "Astol" Hair Colour Restorer will also be sent you.

MY GRAMOPHONE OFFER
INCLUDES
RECORDS
5 YEARS GUARANTEE
FREE
CARRIAGE PAID & FREE PACKING
THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS
MY NEW COLOURED LISTS
show a wonderful selection of superb Gramophone Bargains at the lowest prices. Choice horn and hornless models, including the famous ROBEYPHONE, Portable Table Grand and Pedestal Instruments, in Solid Oak or Mahogany, on the Easiest of Easy Payment Terms.
All the latest and most novel designs illustrated at terms to suit all pockets. You select your own records from my huge up-to-date stock. First instalment secures immediate delivery. Money refunded if dissatisfied. Tens of Thousands of Testimonials. Don't miss these Grand Offers, so write for beautifully coloured free lists now.
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THE WORLD'S PROVIDER.
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buys a No. 208A Mead Gramophone with giant horn, loud sound-box, massive oak case and 40 tunes. Carriage paid. *10 Days' Trial.* 200 model 27/6 cash to record buyers. Table Grands and Cabinet models at WHOLE-SALE Prices. Write for Lists.

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Bronchitis, Catarrh and Whooping Cough are relieved at once by Potter's Asthma Cure. Makes your days comfortable and nights restful. Supplied by all medicine vendors, 1/6. Post free 1/9, from Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 80, Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

Instant relief

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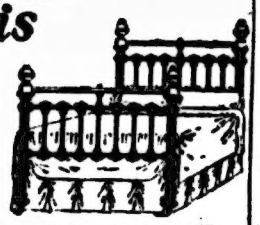
BEDSTEAD



Very fine French pattern double bedstead, richly embellished with solid brass fittings, British made throughout. This superb bedstead can be yours for 5/- down, and you can have it in your own home whilst you pay the low price in easy instalments of 5/- a month (less than 2d. daily). Wire Mattresses, Woollen Mattresser, Bolsters and Pillows, Oak, Walnut and Metal Bedsteads, Cots, etc., also supplied on similar terms.

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HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA.

Your Doctor will tell you how beneficial this wonderful old remedy is in cases of Indigestion, Heartburn, Acidity, Biliousness, Rheumatism, etc. As an aperient, where there is extreme delicacy, it has no equal.

For Children's ailments, from early infancy it is the safest remedy known.

During teething, its soothing effect is invaluable.

Est. 1772. From your Chemist or from the Makers,

HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA T. & W. HENRY, East St., Manchester. **1/6 & 2/9.** Post Free.

(Acts like a charm.)

DON'T COUGH YOUR LIFE AWAY!

Take "NAPOLEON" COUGH CURE—miraculously beneficial and a sure cure for coughs, colds, chest, throat and lung troubles. Not a patent medicine but a pure drug, guaranteed non-injurious.

SPECIAL OFFER! Buy a 2/9 size, use half; if not greatly benefited, return unused half and CASH WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL. Price 1/3 and 2/9. Of good chemists, or post free from

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PERSISTENT SKIN TROUBLES

Ulcerated wounds on legs and ankles often cause pain and suffering for years unless the proper remedy is applied. Germolene has been remarkably successful in cases of bad leg, ulcers, and persistent sores. The following case is typical of thousands.

Mrs. A. Nicholls, Cwm Cottage, 64, Commercial Street, Maesteg, Glam., says: "Eighteen years ago I knocked my leg against a saucepan and a sore developed. This did not heal up, but developed into an ulcerated wound, which was eventually as big as the palm of my hand. I could not walk or work, and the pain was terrible. I lost sleep, and though I took advice tried all kinds of remedies and spent pounds, I could get no relief. This went on year after year until a lady recommended me to try Germolene; I did so, and got relief at once. The dressing was cooling, healed the dreadful pain, and after two days I hardly knew I had a bad leg. Of course I continued the treatment; the wound became smaller and smaller, and my leg is now perfectly well. I am very grateful indeed for what Germolene has done for me."

Use Germolene for Eczema, Rashes, Ulcers, Piles, Itching, Cuts and Burns, Skin Eruptions' Ringworm, Chapped Hands, Chilblains and all Itching or Ulcerated Surfaces

SOOTHES AT A TOUCH.

HOME PRICES: 1/3 and 3/-. Of all chemists throughout the Empire.

Germolene
The Aseptic Skin Dressing

Poverty in the Dock

Starvation that Leads to Shame

SCARCELY a week passes without the police court reports containing accounts of petty thefts committed by poor men and women in the extremity of want, and continually considerable sums of money and offers of employment are sent to magistrates, missionaries and editors of newspapers by people who have been moved to compassion through reading of the delinquents' long struggles against adversity.

But why must poverty so often stand shamefaced in the dock before it is recognised and relieved?

It is easy for people who are well endowed with this world's goods to declare that it is no disgrace to be poor, but such folk are apt to forget that poverty is the mother of crime.

Dr. Johnson observed that a man guilty of poverty easily believes himself suspected. A shivering, starving wretch may well feel, in the words of an old play, "There's no scandal like rags, nor any crime so shameful as poverty," and in such a frame of mind the moral sense is so weakened that to steal seems a lesser evil.

"The Greatest of These—" Fund exists to rescue poverty-stricken souls from the numbing influence of their desperate circumstances, and provide them with the necessaries of life which they might otherwise be driven to obtain by theft.

Only those who have long been engaged in charitable work among the very poor can realise the tremendous efforts made by men, who are down and out, to remain honest. There are heroes of the underworld of poverty and destitution whose determined struggles against almost overpowering temptations to commit crime are among the noblest things in life. It is to save such heroes from the starvation that leads to shame that we appeal week by week for support for our Fund.

Do not wait until you read of some poor fellow who has fallen in the fight and been forced to exhibit his wounds in a police court dock before you show your sympathy. Send us your contributions now, and in blessing others you will yourselves receive blessing. Every penny of administration expense is gladly borne by JOHN BULL.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

"Taurus," 2s. 6d.; A. E. F., 2s. 6d.; Bernard, 6d.; Jiminy, 1s.; M. Sammon, 10s.; T. Nifer, 1s.; H. E. Hutton, 10s.; F. H. Marais, 2s. 6d.; James, 2s.; Anon., parcel; L. B. Bullwell, parcel and 5s.; "Esprit de Corps," 2s. 6d.; T. Lay, 1st.; Mrs. and Mr. Passey, parcel and 2s. 6d.; Two Targets, 2s.; Hopeful, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. R. Smith, 3s. 6d.; A. Scot, 5s.; Anon., 6d.; Old Soldier, £1; J. L., 2s.; 3rd, Berkeley, 1s. 2d.; Emma Gate, 1s. 10d.; M. M., £2 5s.; A. Friend, 2s.; Per Kremlin, 2s. 6d.; Sannomiya (Kobe), 10s.; A. F. S., 4½d.; Jumping Joshua, 3s.; A. W. M., 6d.; Mrs. T. W. C., 6d.; E. Rayner, 1s. 6d.; Mrs. H. Foster, 2s. 6d.; Twickenham, 5s.; A. T., 5s.; Mrs. Warden, parcel; Mrs. Trussler, parcel; A. E. L., parcel; "On the 9th," 3d.; E. S., 2s. 3d.; E. M. T., £1; Matt and Elsie, 5s.; Mrs. Sprigg, 6d.; E. Hall, 2s.; "Treasure Trove" (Bath), £1; Southend, parcel; W. Andrews, 1s. 2d.; Southend, 1s.; Berta, 6d.; "Alfred Salter," £5; Mrs. S. E. Bowyer, 5s.; My Sixth Ninth, 1s.; M. E. H., 5s.; Mr. Irwin, 1s.; Mrs. May Harrison, 2s. 6d.; A. J. Taylor, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. E. Comley, 1s. 6d.; H. Greening, 1s.; Aviary, 1s.; N. Rees, 2s.; B. Bird, 6d.; E. Hodges, 2s.; Fed Up, 4½d.; "100 to 1 Chance," 1s. 3d.; My 2nd 9th, 7d.; "Target Prize," 1s.; A. D., 2s. 6d.; C. A. S. (Croydon), 2s.; Rev. W. A. Baggaley, 11s.; S. F. D., 1s. 3d.; M. Otter, 2s.; S. V. R., 6d.; "Ex Lucem," 2s. 6d.; H. M., 2s.; "Crystal," 5s.; J. G. N., 1s.; "Was I.," 2s. 6d.; J. W. Chapman, 2s.; Mrs. E. S., 7½d.; A. Howard, £2; H. E. Hutton, 10s.; K. D., 2s. 6d. and parcel; Mrs. M. Stone, parcel; J. W. S., 6d.; A. F., 6d.; "Widow's Mite, 1.," "Stillon," 1s. 3d.; N. H. Holwell, 1s.; A. Weston, 2s.; A. W., 1s. 11½d.; B. M., Portchester, 10s.; One of the Boys, 5s.; Bill, 6d.; Anon, (4 out-of-date orders), 2s.; Mrs. A. Nicholls, 2s. 6d.; Grateful Reader, 2s. 6d.; Paddy the Beatle, 1s.; W. E. T. (Leamington), 1s. 6d.

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(Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over)

"Bullets" £1 Prize-winners:

(Continued from page 31.)

Schofield, 29, Bank Terr., Morley, Leeds; N. H. Sharp, 425, London Rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey; C. P. Smith, Murlen Villa, Histon, Cambridge; J. Smith, c/o Townend, Daw Lane Cotts., Dennington, Crigglestone, Yorks; L. A. Spracklen, Damers Rd., Dorchester; F. E. Steen, 40, Manor House Lane, Deepdale, Preston; D. Steven, 132, Clepington Rd., Dundee; F. D. Susden, 14, York Rd., Hitchin; A. W. Summer, 18, Church St., Didsbury, M/c.; R. Summers, 27, Balbirnie St., Markinch, Fife; F. Swallow, Bank End, Netherton, nr, Huddersfield; C. Swan, 3, Grange Loan, Edinburgh; Mrs. M. E. Tasker, 8, Brown's Square, Chorley, Lancs; Mrs. E. A. Taylor, "Littlecot," Wroxham Rd., Bournemouth; E. J. Taylor, 4, Alexandra Rd., Southampton; T. Telder, 25, Worcester St., Barrow-in-Furness; G. E. Tryer, 40, Piercey St., Wednesbury, Staffs.; A. N. Tyson, 9, Council Houses, Meppershall Rd., Shefford, Beds; Miss Varley, Ranby Hall, Lincoln; C. R. Wainwright, 63, Ventnor St., Hull; C. T. Waterhouse, 86, Edinburgh St., Hull; N. Watkins, 17, Thomas St., Loughborough; J. W. Webster, 19, Raleigh Rd., Stoke, Coventry; C. C. Weir, Junr., 102, Nithsdale Rd., Pollokshields, Glasgow; M. H. Whiting, 7, Balaclava Terr., Bishopsgate St., Norwich; Cpl. H. Whittaker, Lincoln Regt. (Signals), Holywood Barracks, Belfast; H. Wilde, 3, Browns Lane, Cefn Mawr, Wrexham; H. Wilde, 93, Hampden St., Bolton, Lancs; F. Williams, 4, Wellington Terr., Easton Rd., Bristol; J. Williams, 61, Lime Walk, Headington, Oxford; G. W. Wilson, 12, Fordham St., Kirkdale, L'pool.

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon used, of which must be made payable to JOHN BULL, crossed and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the entry on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged for absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the newsagents from whom the winners of the three chief "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 548 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

List of 230 Five-Shilling Prize-winners in "Bullets" Competition No. 545 is published in this week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete list of Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

ESULT OF "BULLETS" OMPETITION No. 545.

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

s M. McMASTER, 28, West Blackhall Street, Greenock, N.B.

ample :—BLACKMAIL
llet :—PEST BRINGING UP PAST.

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

. N. FOWLER, 1, Myrtle Bank, Bispham, Blackpool.
mple :—MODERN PLAY
et :—IF "ELEVATING," BOX-OFFICE "DEPRESSED."

THIRD PRIZE OF £50:

W. GARRICK, 2, Hawthorn Road, Ashington, Northumberland.

mple :—BIG NOISE
t :—WELCOMED—AFTER YOUNGSTER'S ILLNESS.

FOURTH PRIZE OF £25:

. DAVIES, 28, Trefelgar Road, Rhiw Vale, Mon.
mple :—SLEEPLESS NIGHT
t :—SPENT, ANTICIPATING "COMING OUT."

FIFTH PRIZE OF £10:

. R. SAUNDERS, 28, Harlex Road, London, S.W.17.
mple :—NEVER NOTICED
t :—SHABBY CLOTHES, HIS DOG.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

. BAILEY, 34, Wigston Road, Plaistow, E.
AT THE OFFICIAL SAID—"WORK? I'LL WATCH IT!"
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
DOVE, 7, The Crescent, Norwich.
VER NOTICED—BECAUSE BURGLAR BROUGHT ANTECHNICON.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
. HALLIDEN, Custom House, Newry.
THE SHOP—WHATEVER IS, IS "BEST."
PE, 31, Canal Street, Perth, N.B.
GHT YOUNG—OLD-TIME HEAVY-WEIGHTS CERAINLY HAVEN'T.
McBEATH, 10, Mansionhouse Road, Langside, Glasgow.
CKMAIL—CRIME "UNSPEAKABLE" — VICTIM DUMB."
MARLAND, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge, nr. reston.
DERN PLAY—THRILLING "BATHROOM SCENES" EXT.
REILLY, 14, Brocklebank Road, London, S.W.
PIPE—FIANCÉE LIT—WIFE BURNT.
PARTRIDGE, 128, Whitehall Road, Great Bridge, pton, Staffs.
PLESS NIGHT—UNREWARDED, HUBBY'S MUTRING MEANINGLESS.
PYKE, 32, Cathay, Redcliffe, Bristol.
OF THE LAW—LONG, BUT APPARENTLY ORT-HANDED.
RPE, Council Cottages, Wetherden, nr. Stowarket.
RDONE—TRUSTED EVERYBODY—THEN NOODY.

Prizes of £2 10s. each:

D. BERYL, 3, Grange Road, Chorlton-cum-rdy, Manchester.
PLESS NIGHT—PATIENT HAD—NURSE SNORED.
. A. DAVIES, 51, Allen Road, Northampton.
T THE OFFICIAL SAID—"WE'RE CONSIDERING NSIDERING IT"
DELAHOYDE, 90, Westminster Road, Liverpool.
FACE—ATTRACTIVE, IF "STOCKING MATCHES."
INCH, 81, Crete Street, Oldham.
RDONE—"SPANISH PRISONER" GETS IMSONED.
ORGE, 113, Roundway, Tottenham, N.17.
N SHE WAKES UP—ENQUIRES HOW BABY PT.
HANCOCK, 15, Greens Road, Victoria Road. mbridge.
DONE—MASSAGE—PATIENT HITS BACK.
RKER, Rock Gardens, Pomphlett, Plymouth.
-MADE—TIE, MADE DAD ROUND-SHOULDERED.
ERING, 21, Crawford Street, Clock Face, nr. Helens, Lancs.
KMAIL—"THEATRE OR MOTHER'S, GEORGE?"
AUNDERS, 69, Palace Road, Norwood, S.E.
WHEELS—MODERN DOMESTIC PREFERS BROOM.
, 35, Norton Road, Northampton.
THE OFFICIAL SAID—"WANT PENSION? U'RE DEAD!"

0 Prize-winners of £1:

Axford, 22, Milner Rd., Horfield, Bristol; ckland, Station Rd., Brynamman, S. Wales; rr, 50, North Lane, Canterbury; W. B. n, 50, St. Mary's Pl., Newcastle; G. H. 117, Castle Rd., Cradham; P. Barber, Caro-West End Pleasure Gdns., Ashton-u-Lyne; ow, 140, Higher Green, Astley, nr. M/c; 3, Barr St., Paisley; Mrs. F. Booker, 18, Terr., Chapel-Allerton, Leeds; J. Bowman, h St., Croydon; W. Brady, 10, Etruria St., M/c; W. Brown, 35, Belmont St., Overishaw; H. Bulmer, "Broxholme," South-Dartmouth; T. Cairns, 42, Norfolk St., orks; A. Christie, 21, E. London St., Edin-W. Collins, 45, Princess Rd., Evesham; on, 101, Elizabeth St., Blackpool; G. R. R.A.S.C., Victoria Barracks, Belfast; Mrs. er, 258, London Rd., East Grinstead; Mrs. gs, 24, Waldeck St., Bolton; Mrs. E. Crawley, e Rd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts; Mrs. e, 11, Castle St., Stafford; J. A. Derbyshire, on St., Farnworth, Bolton; D. Dyson, , East Preston, Littlehampton; J. Eldon, ay Rd., King's Lynn; Mrs. G. E. Eyles, ll Hill Terr., Truro; Mrs. E. Fearn, Senr., n Cotts., Eastleigh, Hants; G. D. Fletcher, ord Rd., Woodseats, Sheffield; R. Forder, St., Ruthin, N. Wales; N. J. Forster, ollery, nr. Doncaster; W. T. Fowler, 9,

(Continued in next column.)

1st. PRIZE "BULLETS" ONE-WEEK CONTEST DOUBLED!

2nd. Prize £100

£500!

3rd. Prize £50

4th Prize £25

10 PRIZES OF £5 | 100 PRIZES OF £1 | 10 PRIZES OF £2-10

5th. Prize £10

200 PRIZES OF 5/- 500 PRIZES OF 2/6 4,000 TARGET PRIZES

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 548.

SIGN OF THE TIMES
SOON BROKEN
AT THE SALES
BIG BABY
HEIGHT OF FOLLY
TO A MAN
BY HEART
WHAT SHE BELIEVES
HAVING IT OUT
HARASSING
AT PRE-WAR PRICE
WHEN SHE DANCES
SHOWING FATHER
MADE TO ORDER
FEATHERING NEST
MORE AT HOME
CHANGING HANDS
THE WRONG SHOP
WHAT THE PEDESTRIAN SAID
NEVER SATISFIED
DANGEROUS
SONNY'S FUTURE
MONEY FOR JAM
SCIENCE
FAMILY SKELETON
HER IDEAL
LATEST PUZZLE
TIT FOR TAT
CURIOUS CHAP
IN REAL LIFE
WITHOUT A GIRL
WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS" — NO LETTER RESTRICTIONS.

Choose any of the *Examples* printed; then give any **Two, Three,** *or* **Four Words** having some bearing on the *Examples* chosen, each of which can begin with any letter in the alphabet. These specimens will guide you :—

Example :—HEART OF THE EMPIRE *Bullet* :—"JUMPS" WHEN PRINCE DOES.
Example :—WHAT IS A HUSBAND? *Bullet* :—FAMILY BUTT—AND BUTTRESS.
Example :—TO-MORROW *Bullet* :—YOUTH'S CRYSTAL—AGE'S HOUR-GLASS.

ENCLOSE A POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6D. FOR EACH COUPON USED.

ADDRESS COUPONS to "Bullets" No. 548, John Bull, Long Acre, London, W.C.2
Entries for "Puzzlets" MUST NOT be enclosed with "Bullets" coupons.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 15.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(548) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 30. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 15.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
548) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 30. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 15.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(548) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 30. With 3 Coupons send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 15.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(548) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 30. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you desire to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 548.

BEGINNING EARLY—IN LIFE'S SCHOOL—A FLAPPER'S DREAM—WHAT THE BURGLAR SAID—EMPTY—A WASH-OUT—WHAT SHE WEARS—IN CASE OF ACCIDENTS—WHAT FATHER DOES—MAN UNDERNEATH—AT FIRST SIGHT—COLD WATER—HUSBAND AND WIFE—WISE CUSTOMER—FIT FOR ME—AFTER HER—SOOTHING—MATRIMONIAL HANDICAP—LIKE A CAT—WHAT IS A CAR?

These Examples can be made use of on the Coupons on this page, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, JANUARY 22.** All Coupons so used **MUST** be marked clearly with the number **548** in the top left-hand corner and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 548, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C. 2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Examples for Competition No. 548.

The original cheque for 1,500 guineas awarded to the First Prize-winner in "Bullets" Competition No. 544, can now be seen in the window of Mr. S. Duxbury, Windmill Road, Headington, Nr. Oxford.

Station Rd., Nelson, Cardiff; T. H. Francis, Eaglesfield House, Abbey St., Carlisle; W. Gale, 170, Manchester Rd., Swindon, Wilts; H. C. Gant, Moat Farm, Croton, Borford, Suffolk; M. H. Gillet, Worsley House, 12, Pepys Rd., New Cross, S.E.; M. Gray, 122, Alexandra Rd., Upper Parkstone, Dorset; Miss L. Harper, 59, Milroy St., Liverpool; J. Harrison, 68, Anthony St., London, E.; Mrs. Hawkins, 9, Ireland Terr., Walcott St., Hull; L. Heward, 209, Stratford Rd., B'ham; J. Hill, 64, Vancouver St., Darlington; A. Hindle, 18, Blackmires, Holmfield, Halifax; Mrs. B. Howarth, 10, Edgmont Av., Daubhill, Bolton; C. E. Hutchence, Westward Ho! West Byfleet; Mrs. K. M. Hutton, 38, Earl St., Scotstoun, Glasgow; E. Job, 409, Old Kent Rd., London, S.E.; Mrs. C. E. Jones, 8, Swift Square, Holyhead; F. C. Jones, Block 10, Royal National Hospital, Ventnor, I.O.W.; P. J. Jones, 1, Fairlight Villas, Alresford, Hants; T. E. Jones, Mostyn Iron Works Office, Mostyn, Chester; G. C. Keene, Sutton-on-The-Forest, York; R. Lancaster, Hillside, Queensdown Estate, Westgate-on-Sea; Mrs. D. M. Lang, Quinton Rectory, Northampton; J. Lorden, 18, Lyle St., Mountain Ash; E. Lowman, 95, Woodford Rd., Forest Gate, E.; J. McCaw, 181, Stoberose St., Glasgow; P. McNair, 12, Southchurch Rd., Central Park, E. Ham, E.; H. W. Meachin, 21, Hartley's Village, Aintree, L'pool.; L. Merrifield, 28, Courthill Rd., Parkstone, Dorset; E. E. Morrison, "Oakles," Queen Alex. Rd., W., North Shields; Mrs. Myall, 98, Upper Bridge Rd., Chelmsford; C. Neave, 31, Ombersley Rd., Bedford; Mrs. L. Nelson, "The Angles," Drummond Rd., Skegness; M. O. Nugent, Tin Works, Chester St., Shrewsbury; A. Palmer, c/o "Wulfruna," Abbey Rd., Port Talbot; W. Pease, 317, Upper Thorpe, Sheffield; Mrs. F. Powles, 129, Witton Lane, Aston, B'ham; J. H. Prior, 112, High St., Camden Town, N.W.; J. B. Pring, 19, Burnley Rd., Stockwell, S.W.; C.

(Continued on page 30.)

CURZON'S

GREAT NEW YEAR SALE

Made to measure suits at nearly HALF PRICE!

EVERY MAN MUST ACCEPT THIS WONDERFUL YEARLY OFFER.

CURZON BROS.' GREAT SALE for men takes place once a year in January, and this is the only opportunity you will have of purchasing a made-to-measure suit at these extraordinarily low prices. Last year over twenty thousand men accepted our offer, and they, as well as many others, have been looking forward to the New Year to take advantage of the remarkable reductions.

The **SALE** *Every Man waits for*

Astounding Reductions

Our 3 guinea, £4 10s. od., and £5 15s. od. suits are, we venture to state, really wonderful value, and by comparison are better purchases than can be obtained elsewhere, but in order that every man in Britain shall test the famous Curzon value, we have slaughtered these prices. For the purpose of this sale we will offer you our usual 3 guinea suit for £2, our usual £4 10s. od. suit for only £3, and our usual £5 15s. od. suit, which we have reduced to £4.

~~£3 3 0~~ ~~£4 10 0~~ ~~£5 15 0~~

£2. £3. £4

CARRIAGE PAID ANYWHERE IN G. BRITAIN & IRELAND

FOR 14 DAYS ONLY

LOUNGE SUIT in this or eight other styles, made to measure. Perfect fit guaranteed.

£2 £3 £4

Carriage Paid in Great Britain and Irish Free State.

All new goods

We want you to realise that this sale is different from many others because all the cloths from which the suits offered are made are guaranteed genuine new goods, not old season's patterns or job lines of cloth bought cheaply because nobody else wants them, but brand new rolls of cloth that have recently been delivered from some of the best Mills in England and Scotland.

For a great number of years we have been consistent in our effort to provide men with a suit of best quality materials, well cut and beautifully finished, at prices that will just give us one small profit, and give the customer such value that he will return to us for his repeat orders again and again.

No matter what size you are you will be charged no extras whatever and not a cent for anything special you require. For instance, you can choose the double-breasted style of coat, can have as many pockets as you wish, link buttons, high or low cut vest, raised seams if you prefer them, permanent turn-up trousers, etc., without any extra charge. During this great Curzon Sale your £2, £3 or £4 covers everything, including carriage in Great Britain and Ireland, and in addition you get the smartest, best fitting and best value made-to-measure suit you have ever had in your life.

The cloths comprise fast colour Indigo Blue Serges (the 40s. quality is astounding, and is guaranteed for two years), Scotch Tweeds, Cheviots, Pinhead Greys, Fancy Worsteds, Yorkshire Tweeds, Heather Mixtures, Black or Blue Vicunas, and West of England Tweeds, etc.

If you live in town, call at any Curzon shop mentioned below, examine these wonderful materials and get measured right away. Don't delay a moment, or you may miss this really remarkable offer.

Or, if unable to call, fill in the coupon, and a monster bunch of patterns with Fashion Book and self-measure form will be sent you by return. If inconvenient to use the Coupon, a letter or postcard mentioning JOHN BULL will do quite as well. Sit down right now and address your communication to Head Office.

CURZON BROS., LTD. *THE WORLD'S MEASURE TAILORS*

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CITY: 70 and 72, City Road, E.C.; 34, Liverpool Street, E.C.; 103, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.; 16, Ludgate Hill, E.C.; 76, Aldersgate Street, E.C.; 19, High Street, Aldgate (next to Aldgate Station); 35-37, New Bridge Street, Ludgate Circus, E.C.
DEPTFORD: Chesham House, Broadway.
WOOLWICH: 43, Hare Street.
FOREST GATE: 39, Woodgrange Road.
SHOREDITCH: 185 and 187, Old Street, E.C.
EUSTON: 13, Hampstead Road.
POPLAR: 263, East India Dock Road.
FINCHLEY: 13, King's Parade, Church End.
GRAVESEND: 13 and 14, Milton Road.
BRIGHTON & HOVE: 66, George Street, Hove.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES: 27 and 27A, Market Place.
RICHMOND & TWICKENHAM: 354, Richmond Road (near Richmond Bridge).
SUTTON (SURREY): 129, High Street.
GRAYS (ESSEX): 71-73, High Street.
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA: 58, High Street.
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA: Hamlet Court Road.
WIMBLEDON: Prince of Wales Terrace, Hartfield Road (opposite Railway Station).
SHEPHERD'S BUSH: 72, Uxbridge Road.

SEND A POSTCARD OR LETTER OR FILL IN AND USE THIS COUPON!

To Curzon Bros., Ltd., 35 to 37, New Bridge Street, London, E.C.4.

Please send me, free of charge and without obligation, your sale patterns of suitings with latest fashion book and self-measure form. If I make a selection and place my order, it will be on this understanding that if suit is not absolutely satisfactory in every respect you guarantee my money will be refunded in full without question, or that any alteration I wish will be made free of charge.

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ADDRESS .....

.....

J.B. 10.1.25.

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